



## Heard For Miles



This photo provided by the Howard County Fire And Rescue shows the scene of a damaged building and burning debris nearby after an explosion at an office complex and shopping center in Columbia, Md., Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019.  
Associated Press

Page 3



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## Arkansas, home to supremacist groups, weighs hate crimes law

**LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP)** —

Long before a mass shooting killed 22 people at a Walmart in Texas, the threat of white supremacy was well known in neighboring Arkansas, where extremist groups over the decades have made their home in the mountains and dense woods of the state's remote rural areas.

In the 1980s, a group known as the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord grew to more than 100 members before federal authorities raided its compound in the Ozarks.

The Knights of the Ku Klux Klan and a "Christian identity" group that promotes racism have made their headquarters in the state. Just last February, prosecutors in Little Rock unsealed indictments against 54 members of the New Aryan Empire, a white supremacist group that began as a prison gang.

Nonetheless, Arkansas is one of only four states without a specific hate crimes law, declining over the years to follow the national legal trend for combatting ethnic violence as it dealt with other priorities it considered more pressing.

Now that reticence is giving way, one of the political tremors being felt across the nation after recent attacks. Republican Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who as a federal prosecutor wore a bulletproof vest to negotiate the end of the siege with the Covenant, the Sword and the Arm of the Lord, has called on lawmakers to approve harsher penalties for crimes targeting people because of their race, ethnicity or religion.

"We have seen a resurgence of white supremacy



In this Oct. 16, 2013 file photo, motorists drive past a newly installed billboard near the intersection of Arkmo Road and Vine Road in Harrison, Ark.

Associated Press

dialogue, of conversation, and I know enough from the '80s that when you have that conversation and increased dialogue some people are going to take it to the extreme and act on it," Hutchinson recently told reporters.

Pressure for new legislation is also mounting in Georgia and South Carolina, two other states without hate crimes laws. Wyoming is the other holdout, while a measure enacted in Indiana in April falls short of the standard recognized by the Anti-Defamation League.

The threat posed by hate groups, white supremacists and militias has been highlighted by two recent mass shootings labeled as domestic terrorism by federal authorities.

The suspected gunman in the El Paso attack, 21-year-old Patrick Crusius of Allen, Texas, is believed to have

posted an anti-immigrant screed online shortly before opening fire in the Walmart, targeting Hispanic shoppers. Santino William Legan, the gunman who killed three people at a food festival in California, had compiled a "target list" that included religious groups.

Arkansas hasn't experienced any similar mass shootings recently, but few states are more familiar with the threat from white supremacy.

Such groups have long flourished in the Ozark Mountain region near the Missouri border where towns are small and scattered far apart and the population is overwhelmingly white.

The largest town, Harrison, population 13,000, was the site of riots in the early 1900s that drove out most of its black population. The Knights of the Ku Klux

lives a short drive outside town.

In recent years, billboards occasionally have appeared with white supremacist messages such as, "Anti-racist is a code word for anti-white," or promoting a white pride website.

"Once they get a toehold people follow them in there," said Heidi Beirich, director of the Intelligence Project at the Southern Poverty Law Center, referring to the remote, wooded area. The group tracked 14 hate groups in Arkansas last year.

Harrison leaders insist the city's reputation is being unfairly tarnished by a small group of people. They've posted "Love Your Neighbor" billboards in response to the racist signs and even held a mock funeral to "bury" racism.

"Our problem is that our town struggles with a widespread and long-lasting perception that we are dominated by bigotry and racism," said a message on the city's website. □

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## Gas explosion hits office, shopping complex in Maryland

By BRIAN WITTE

A powerful natural gas explosion badly damaged a Maryland office complex and shopping center Sunday morning, ripping away part of the facade and exposing twisted metal, authorities said.

No injuries were reported in the thundering blast, which occurred at about 8 a.m. It came after authorities said they had evacuated the area around the complex because of a suspected early morning gas leak near the complex in Columbia, Maryland.

Fire crews responded about an hour before the explosion because of a fire alarm that was upgraded to a report of a gas leak in the parking lot, officials said. When fire personnel arrived, they immediately evacuated everyone from the surrounding area and made sure the building was vacant.

The subsequent explosion ripped away a significant part of the facade, scattering debris.

"It was so powerful it could be heard in communities many miles away," said

Howard County Executive Calvin Ball in a statement. No businesses were open, said Stephen Hardesty, the

battalion chief of the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue Services. He said the time of day played a major role in the lack of injuries, and he described it as one of the worst explosions he's seen.

"The building is at risk of collapsing, so we're working with some building inspectors and the property owner to figure out what our next steps are to secure the building and help out as much as we can with the investigation that's going to ensue with this," Hardesty said.

Gov. Larry Hogan thanked first responders for being on the scene within minutes. The governor said the Maryland Joint Operations Center and the State Fire Marshal have offered their full support and assistance.

"This massive explosion was felt in many of the surrounding communities, a shock to families across the area," Hogan said in the tweet. "Thankfully, no injuries have been reported so far."

Ball said the county will be helping affected businesses and workers. "I have mobilized our team from the Howard County Economic Development Authority to assist those businesses and workers who may find themselves displaced by this event," Ball said. "We will do everything possible to minimize the impact of this explosion (on) those who are affected by it."

Columbia is about 20 miles (32) southwest of Baltimore, Maryland, in a populous area between Baltimore and the nation's capital. □



A Howard County emergency responder looks on at the damage caused by a gas explosion at the Lakeside Office Park in Columbia, Md., Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019.

Associated Press

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# Authorities: Los Angeles deputy lied about sniper assault

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — A Los Angeles County deputy lied when he said he was shot in the shoulder while standing in a sheriff's station parking lot last week and will face a criminal investigation, authorities said.

"The reported sniper assault was fabricated" by Deputy Angel Reinosa, Assistant Sheriff Robin Limon said at a news conference late Saturday.

Reinosa, 21, made a frantic radio call Wednesday claiming he'd been shot by someone in a nearby building as he walked to his car outside the Lancaster station, prompting a huge police response. Deputies set up a perimeter and SWAT officers went door-to-door inside a sprawling building complex to search for the shooter.

At the time, investigators believed Reinosa's bullet-proof vest saved his life but that a bullet grazed him. A department statement the next day said a single round hit the top of Reinosa's shoulder, damaging his uniform shirt but failing to penetrate his flesh.

But no bullets were recov-



This Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019 file image taken from video provided by KABC-TV shows the outside of a Los Angeles County sheriff's station in Lancaster, Calif.

Associated Press

ered from the scene and detectives saw "no visible injuries," Capt. Kent Wegener said Saturday night. Much of the young deputy's statement "was self-serving and didn't make a whole lot of sense," Wegener said. "There were many things that didn't add up." Reinosa eventually admitted making up the story and using a knife to cut the two holes in his shirt, Wegener said. Reinosa has been relieved of his duties

and could face charges for filing a false report about a crime, officials said. He didn't explain his motive for the fabrication, Wegener said. Reinosa had been with the LA County Sheriff's Department for a year and joined the Lancaster station in May for patrol training. Lancaster Mayor R. Rex Parris told the Los Angeles Times on Sunday he had been informed by sheriff's officials that Reinosa had been struggling in his first

year in the field — a probationary training period that all deputies must complete before becoming full-fledged deputies. Sheriff's officials wouldn't immediately confirm that account. "He was not advancing through the training program at an adequate pace," Parris told the newspaper. "There had been a lot of attention on him."

Parris declined to elaborate further on Reinosa's performance but said the deputy was scheduled to be transferred from the Lancaster station and speculated that he had been unhappy about the pending move.

The mayor visited Reinosa in the hospital and then gave a press conference on the incident Wednesday night detailing the ongoing investigation.

Parris said he was "embarrassed" after learning Saturday evening that the whole ordeal was a hoax.

"At the same time, I'm grateful we don't have a sniper running around," the mayor told the newspaper. "And I'm really proud of how the Sheriff's Department handled it. There was no attempt to cover it up." Deputies searched through the night for the sniper inside the block-long, four-story structure with many windows that overlook the sheriff's facility in downtown Lancaster, a desert city of about 160,000 people north of Los Angeles. □

## Married only minutes, Texas newlyweds killed in crash

Associated Press

**ORANGE, Texas (AP)** — Harley Morgan was still wearing his dark suit and Rhianon Boudreaux her wedding dress when the Texas "childhood sweethearts" were killed in a crash with a truck minutes after they were married.

Nineteen-year-old Morgan and 20-year-old Boudreaux were pronounced dead Friday at the scene by the same justice of the peace who had just married them. "I'm talking five minutes. You may kiss the bride," said Orange Police Cpt. Keith Longlois. "The family was right behind them. They were all going out to go to wherever they were going to have their reception," he said.

Longlois said they were "childhood sweethearts" who decided to be mar-

ried by a popular Orange County Justice of the Peace Joy Dubose-Simonton. He said the groom was driving when he tried to exit the driveway of the Justice of The Peace building onto a five-lane highway. A truck pulling a trailer carrying a heavy tractor slammed into their vehicle. The force was so great that witnesses said the car flipped multiple times before coming to rest in a ditch.

The driver of the truck was not identified but Longlois said he was cooperating with the investigation and there was no sign of wrongdoing. Drug and alcohol tests would be conducted, he said.

"I had to sit there and watch my two babies die," the mother of the groom, LaShawna Morgan, told the Beaumont Enterprise. □

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## Attorneys: Charges expected in Florida nursing home deaths

By KELLI KENNEDY

Associated Press

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP)

— Defense attorneys said Sunday that arrests are expected shortly in the case of a Florida nursing home where 12 patients died after its air conditioning power went out amid sweltering heat following Hurricane Irma in 2017.

Lawrence Hashish told The Associated Press his client is one of three nurses, in addition to an administrator, expecting to be charged in connection with the deaths after Hurricane Irma, which blew through Florida on Sept. 10 of that year. The storm knocked out a transformer linking the main air-conditioning unit to the power grid at the Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills, sending temperatures soaring.

Hashish said the attorneys don't yet know what specific charges would be, but he expected those would likely entail some form of manslaughter offense. Twelve deaths at the center had been ruled homicides. Police have been investigating the deaths for nearly two years but no charges have been filed thus far.

A voice message and email left by the AP for Hollywood Police were not immediately returned Sunday.

Hashish said his client and the others are merely scapegoats.

"The real crime is that the state is looking to blame selfless caregivers and the evidence will show that no crime was committed," he said in a telephone interview.

His co-counsel, Ilham Sof-fan, told the AP that their client was turning herself in Monday. The attorneys said they didn't have any further details about expected

charges and planned to negotiate a bond agreement before an expected hearing Monday morning. Patients began dying at the rehabilitation center days after the devastating hurricane struck Florida amid widespread power outages.

Investigators said the center did not evacuate patients as temperatures inside began rising, even though a fully functional hospital was across the street.

The home's license was suspended days after the storm and it was later shuttered.

Paramedic Craig Wohlitka and other paramedics from Hollywood Fire-Rescue testified last year that he was haunted by the deaths of patients there. Fire Lt. Amy Parrinello said one of the female patients had a temperature of 107.5 degrees (42 Celsius), the highest she had ever seen in his 12-year career.

Later that morning, she said, another patient topped that with a temperature so high it couldn't be measured.

Wohlitka further testified that the crew decided to start checking other patients who hadn't been reported as ill.

He said they saw a woman in a room who appeared sick, though a nursing home employee said they had just checked her and she was fine.

In the aftermath of Irma, the deaths made national headlines and sparked a political backlash. Months afterward, lawmakers passed a bill requiring backup power sources in Florida nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The legislation requires such facilities to have a generator capable of keeping nurs-

ing homes and assisted living facilities at 81 degrees Fahrenheit (27 degrees Celsius) or lower for at least four days.

Hashish declined to identify his client by name, but said she was works as a full-time nurse at another facility and was just picking up a shift that day in September 2017.

"They called her. They said, 'can you come and help? We're short-handed,' and look what she walked into," he said. □



In this Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017 file photo, a woman is transported from The Rehabilitation Center at Hollywood Hills as patients are evacuated after a loss of air conditioning due to Hurricane Irma in Hollywood, Fla.

Associated Press

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## Florida man convicted in parking lot shooting of black man

**Associated Press**

A white Florida man who told detectives he had a "pet peeve" about illegal parking in handicapped spots was convicted late Friday of manslaughter for the fatal shooting of an unarmed black man outside a convenience store.

Six jurors deliberated for six hours in Clearwater before convicting Michael Drejka for the July 19, 2018, death of Markeis McGlockton. Drejka, who could get 30 years, looked down after the verdict was read then wiped his brow with a blue handkerchief. The 49-year-old Drejka was ordered held without bond until his sentencing in October. He stared straight ahead as he was handcuffed and led out of the courtroom.

The verdict came about a half-hour after jurors sent out a note saying they were confused by the state's self-defense law. Circuit Judge Joseph Bulone told them all he could do is reread it for them.

The lengthy statute generally says a shooting is justified if a reasonable person under those circumstances would believe they are in danger of death or great bodily harm. But it also says the shooter could not have instigated the altercation. Members of McGlockton's family wept as the verdict was read and hugged and shook hands with the prosecutors after court was adjourned.

"This conviction doesn't bring our son back, but it does give us some sense of justice because far too often the criminal justice



In a Aug. 23, 2018 file photo, Michael Drejka sits in court during a bond hearing at the Pinellas County Justice Center in Clearwater, Fla.

system fails us by allowing people who take the lives of unarmed Black people to walk free as though their lives meant nothing," McGlockton's mother, Monica Robinson, said in a statement. "We are hopeful that this conviction will be a brick in the road to changing the culture of racism here in Florida."

Theresa Jean-Pierre Coy, one of Drejka's attorneys, told reporters outside the courthouse that she respected the verdict, but her team would likely file an appeal. She expressed her condolences to the McGlockton family and said that while she was disappointed in the verdict, she was "happy they received the justice they were seek-

ing." Drejka had confronted McGlockton's girlfriend, Britany Jacobs, for parking in a handicapped space while McGlockton went inside a convenience store with his 5-year-old son. Security video recorded McGlockton leaving the store and shoving Drejka to the ground. Seconds later, Drejka pulled out a handgun and shot McGlockton, 28, as he backed away. McGlockton ran inside the store, where he collapsed and died in front of his son. The video was played multiple times for the jury of five men and a woman. Drejka didn't testify on his behalf, although jurors were played a video of his interview with detectives.

Drejka had a concealed weapons permit for 25 years and told detectives he "always" carried his gun. Drejka told the detectives he has a "pet peeve" about illegal parking in handicapped spots and often walks around such cars looking for handicapped stickers and placards, sometimes taking photographs. He said he often sees people illegally parked in the handicapped spot at that convenience store, but the owner doesn't do anything about it. Drejka said he saw McGlockton's car in the handicapped spot in July 2018, so he went to its back and front, looking for stickers, which store security video shows. He said the car's

windows were tinted, so he didn't know anyone was inside.

Jacobs, who was sitting with the couple's two younger children, partially put down her window and asked what he was doing. He said he told her it was "not very polite" to park in the spot and "she took that as an affront." He said that sparked an argument that got heated, with Jacobs saying "Do I have to get my man?"

Jacobs testified that Drejka had started pointing and yelling at her. She said she cracked the window to hear what he was saying and a screaming match ensued.

Prosecutor Scott Rosenwasser said during closing arguments earlier Friday that Drejka provoked McGlockton to shove him by yelling at Jacobs instead of calling the police if he felt so strongly about her being parked in the handicapped spot. Testimony showed he had confronted a septic truck driver for parking in the same spot months earlier, leading to an argument.

"He is a parking lot vigilante," Rosenwasser said.

Defense attorney John Trevena told the jurors such comments are ridiculous. Drejka retired in his 30s from his tree-trimming job because of health problems. "Does he look like Charles Bronson in 'Death Wish'?" he asked, referring to the 1974 action movie. "This isn't a vigilante."

Drejka, the son of a police officer, had no record before the shooting. □



## Ex-congressman Gary Ackerman accused of violating a teenager

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Former U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman is being called a sexual "predator" in a lawsuit accusing the New York Democrat of violating a teenager at a Boy Scout camp five decades ago.

The New York Post reported Saturday that the now 76-year-old Ackerman allegedly abused the 17-year-old while he was a director at the Ten Mile River Camp near upstate Narrowsburg, west of Poughkeepsie, according to papers filed in state Supreme Court.

In the lawsuit, the teen said Ackerman — then 23 — drove him to a back road where he tried to fondle him before forcing oral sex.

The Boy Scouts should have been aware that Ackerman was a "known predator" with the potential to harm kids, according to court papers cited by the newspaper. The Boy Scouts told the Post they had no record of any allegations against him.

Attorney Oscar Michelen told the Post that the married father of three denies any wrongdoing, and to call him a "predator" is tantamount to slander.

Michelen did not respond Saturday to a message from The Associated Press requesting comment. Nor did Jordan Merson, the attorney for the alleged victim who told the Post that New York's recently enact-



In this Tuesday, June 28, 2011, file photo, then-U.S. Rep. Gary Ackerman, D-N.Y., visits a protest in Jerusalem.

Associated Press

ed Child Victims Act gave his now 70-year-old client the chance to come forward.

Whenever his client — who

is not named — hears Ackerman's name, "he goes immediately into PTSD symptoms, and anxiety," Merson told the Post. □



This Oct. 17, 2018 file photo shows damage to the Hudson River rail tunnel in New York.

Associated Press

## New plan cuts more than \$1B off New York rail tunnel cost

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)** — New York and New Jersey submitted a new plan for a rail tunnel project under the Hudson River that cuts nearly \$1.5 billion off the previous cost estimate, as officials seek to break a funding impasse with the federal government that has stalled progress in recent years.

The plan announced Friday envisions design and construction savings that would reduce the new tunnel's estimated cost from just over \$11 billion to \$9.5 billion. Repairing the exist-

ing century-old tunnel that was damaged in 2012's Superstorm Sandy, and is a source of frequent delays due to crumbling infrastructure, would cost about \$1.8 billion, or about \$200 million more than previous estimates. Department officials have said the low ratings are justified because of the total cost of the request — which dwarfs any other project around the country — and because the states plan to fund their share of the project, between \$5 billion and \$6 billion, with federal loans. □

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## While Italian pols fight, finance minister tries to reassure



Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte, right, arrives at the G-7 summit in Biarritz, France, Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019.

Associated Press

By FRANCES D'EMILIO  
Associated Press

**ROME (AP)** — Italy's economy minister tried to reassure financial markets and citizens as the nation's political leaders struggled Sunday to form a new government hoping to avoid early elections that could bring nationalist Matteo Salvini and his hard-right forces to power.

Giovanni Tria, non-partisan economy minister in the just-collapsed populist co-

alition, predicted in an interview in Sunday's Corriere della Sera newspaper that Italy's 2020 deficit will be less than feared.

Tria was quoted as saying that even without additional measures, the deficit for next year will be "substantially lower than the 2.1 percent of GDP predicted" in the budget plan that Premier Giuseppe Conte's government envisioned in spring 2019.

Tria insisted there's "room to maneuver" to avoid an automatic sales tax hike that would punish Italy's long-ailing economy.

He argued that two campaign promises that the populist government had enacted -- a guaranteed minimum income and an early retirement possibility for workers -- had cost less than feared.

He also cited greater revenues and lower interest on Italy's staggering public debt as he dismissed as "foolishness" talk of recession and "plunges in consumption" by consumers.

Salvini triggered the collapse last week by yanking the support of his right-wing League party, which has governed since June 2018 together with the anti-establishment 5-Star Movement.

Whoever governs this fall will have to make painful budget cuts to meet European Union expectations just as Salvini campaigns to be premier on pledges that he'll put "Italians first" ahead of EU interests.

The 5-Stars and the opposition center-left Democrats were scrambling in closed-door discussions to see if they can cobble together

a coalition, despite sharp differences on who would be premier.

Democratic Party chief Nicola Zingaretti challenged the 5-Stars to agree to a government whose planks would be a clear break with those of the coalition that just collapsed.

"Italians just wouldn't understand a mishmash" of the last government that failed, Zingaretti told reporters Sunday evening.

"We'll do everything to try to find a possible solution, which, I won't deny, at this point hasn't been found," Zingaretti said. He called on the 5-Star leaders to meet with Democrats on Monday to make some progress.

President Sergio Mattarella on Thursday said party leaders had asked for more time for negotiations for a coalition government that can win a mandatory confidence vote in both chambers of Parliament.

But while he made clear it was his duty to see if this Parliament could continue under some solid government, Mattarella said Italians and financial markets need answers soon. If he doesn't get them, starting with a new round of talks with party leaders this week, Mattarella will dissolve Parliament and set new elections this fall, some 3 1/2 years early.

Meanwhile, Salvini, worried that his coalition pull-out might not give him the early elections he sought, has dangled the possibility of a return to governing with the 5-Stars, even suggesting another coalition headed by Conte.

□



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## Best G-7 can do for global economy: just don't make it worse

By DAVID McHUGH

Associated Press

**BIARRITZ, France (AP)** — The global economy craves a double shot of confidence right now but the best that leaders of the Group of Seven can offer is a less intoxicating cocktail: not making things worse.

Sharp differences over U.S. President Donald Trump's trade conflict with China and threats to escalate trade tensions with Europe, along with Britain's impending departure from the European Union on terms yet to be decided, are making it unlikely the leaders of seven rich democracies can come up with a unified road map on how to help global growth.

What the global economy doesn't need: an outcome like last year's summit in Canada. Leaders wrestled over a final joint statement, only to have Trump repudiate his signature shortly after leaving the summit and tweet criticism of the host, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

This year's host, French Prime Minister Emmanuel Macron, has indicated he will avoid that possibility by simply not having a statement. Instead, Macron may issue his own careful summary of what was discussed.

Even if the leaders, who discussed the economy Sunday morning, issue a final statement, it's unlikely to contain a solution to what's



French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel attend a press conference on the situation in Sahel during the G7 summit in Biarritz, southwestern France, Sunday Aug. 25 2019.

Associated Press

deterring investment and dampening business confidence. During Sunday's meeting on the economy, Trump and the others basically stated their contrasting positions on trade. EU officials pointed out the impact of trade tensions on the global economy and their support for dealing with China within multilateral institutions while Trump restated his U.S. vs. China approach.

In some ways the global economy is doing fairly well at the moment, with unemployment low in major economies. Yet world trade and industrial investment and production have

slowed sharply — and those are the forces that could carry forward the decade-long economic expansion since the Great Recession. By imposing tariffs, or import taxes, on Chinese goods, and by threatening to impose new ones on European autos and even French wine, Trump has sown uncertainty among businesses about their supply chains — the paths that raw materials, parts and goods take as they move through the globalized economy. Markets have become volatile, dropping sharply last week after the U.S. and China exchanged more tariffs.

Holger Schmieding, chief

economist at Berenberg Bank in London, says that while the direct damage from the tariffs is so far limited, the lack of clarity over terms of trade is corroding confidence.

"Entrepreneurs and firms only invest when they feel confident about the outlook," he said. "The pervasive uncertainty about the future of global trade and the resulting need to restructure cross-border supply chains weighs heavily on industrial sentiment and investment."

Business, he noted, is driven by "animal spirits" — a term coined by 20th-century British economist John May-

nard Keynes to describe the optimism needed to take risks and invest.

Trump's unpredictable America-first economic nationalism is upending decades of rules-based economic cooperation rooted in global institutions like the World Trade Organization and the Group of Seven itself. Space for action is increasingly limited, and not just by Trump's disruption.

The U.S. Federal Reserve has little room to lower interest rates, and the European Central Bank's even less, with its key benchmarks at or below zero. They could resume stimulus programs that include buying bonds to lower borrowing rates. But borrowing rates are already extremely low.

Many governments still have debt hangovers from the global financial crisis, leaving less room for spending to stimulate investment and consumption. Germany has been running a surplus and has balked at taking on new debt to spend on things that could raise growth, such as roads and bridges and high-speed internet coverage for the whole country.

China's growth has slowed from its previous red-hot pace, which often happens when an emerging economy starts to catch up with the rest of the world. Aging populations in many developed economies will strain tax revenues and lower consumption. □



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## Hezbollah leader: Israeli drones over Lebanon will be downed

By ZEINA KARAM

Associated Press

**BEIRUT (AP)** — The leader of Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah said Sunday that his group will confront and shoot down any Israeli drones that enter Lebanese airspace from now on, raising the potential for conflict amid heightened regional tensions.

Hassan Nasrallah also vowed to retaliate to an Israeli airstrike inside Syria that took place hours earlier, which he said killed two Hezbollah members.

Nasrallah's speech came after one alleged Israeli drone crashed in a Hezbollah stronghold in south Beirut, landing on the roof of a building that houses Hezbollah's media office, while another exploded



Broken windows are seen on the 11-floor building that houses the media office in a stronghold of the Lebanese Hezbollah group in a southern suburb of Beirut, Lebanon, Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019.

and crashed in a plot behind the building, causing material damage, authorities said.

A Hezbollah spokesman said earlier Sunday that

the group did not fire on any of the drones. He said the second drone was likely armed, judging by the damage it caused.

Nasrallah said one of the drones had been flying low among buildings, calling it a military "suicide mission" and "a clear aggression." He said allowing Israel to keep flying drones over Lebanon would lead to a similar situation as in Iraq, where a series of attacks there targeting military bases and weapons depot belonging to Iranian-backed militias have left the country on edge. U.S. officials say at least one of them was carried out by Israel.

In Saturday's strikes near the Syrian capital, Israel publicly stated it was thwarting an imminent drone strike against Israel by Iran's Revolutionary Guards' Al Quds Force.

But Nasrallah said the strikes actually hit a Hezbollah rest house, marking a rare acknowledgement of member deaths in Syria by Israeli strikes.

"I tell Israeli soldiers on the border (with Lebanon) to be cautious and wait. Maybe in a day or two or three or four... do not think for a moment that Hezbollah will

allow such matters to pass," he added.

The downed drones and cross-border airstrikes come amid heightened tensions between Israel and Iran, which backs Hezbollah.

Israeli aircraft continued to violate Lebanese airspace Sunday, flying low over Beirut hours after the drones crashed, raising fears of a wider conflict.

Hezbollah spokesman Mohammed Afif said a small, unmanned reconnaissance drone fell on a building housing Hezbollah's media office in the Moawwad neighborhood in Dahyeh, the group's stronghold in southern Beirut.

He said a second drone, which appeared to have been sent by Israel to search for the first one less than 45 minutes later, exploded in the air and crashed in an empty plot nearby, shattering windows in surrounding buildings.

Residents said they heard a loud blast that triggered a nighttime fire.

There was no immediate Israeli comment on the drone incident or Hezbollah's remarks.

AP journalists on the scene Sunday said the 11-floor building that houses Hezbollah's media office as well as nearby buildings suffered minor damage and broken glass. On the second floor, where the group has its offices, shattered glass littered the floors and some of the desks were overturned. A portrait of Nasrallah was on a desk littered with glass.

A Lebanese army statement said an Israeli drone came down while the other exploded in the sky over Beirut, causing material damage.

Israeli warplanes regularly violate Lebanese airspace and have struck inside

neighboring Syria from Lebanon on several occasions, angering Hezbollah and Lebanese officials, who have complained to the United Nations.

The Lebanese Foreign Ministry counted 481 Israeli violations of Lebanese airspace in the past two months and instructed Lebanon's representative to the U.N. to submit an immediate complaint.

Lebanese Prime Minister Saad Hariri described the crash of the two drones constitute a threat to regional stability and an attempt to push the situation toward more escalation.

Israel's late-night airstrike Saturday in Syria, which triggered Syrian anti-aircraft fire, appeared to be one of the most intense attacks by Israeli forces in several years.

Lt. Col. Jonathan Conricus, a military spokesman, said Iran's Revolutionary Guards' Al Quds force, working with allied Shiite militias, had been planning to send a number of explosives-laden attack drones into Israel. Conricus said Israel had monitored the plot for several months and on Thursday prevented Iran from making an "advanced attempt" to execute the same plan. Then, Iran tried again late Saturday to carry out the same attack, he said.

He declined to give specifics on what targets the Iranians intended to strike.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a Britain-based war monitoring group, reported that two Hezbollah members and an Iranian militiaman were killed in the Israeli attack Saturday night. Israel has carried out hundreds of attacks in recent years targeting Hezbollah and other Iranian targets in Syria. □

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# Hong Kong police draw guns in latest protest violence

By **KELVIN CHAN**  
**KIN CHEUNG**

Associated Press

**HONG KONG (AP)** — Hong Kong police drew their guns Sunday night after protesters attacked officers with sticks and rods, and brought out water cannon trucks for the first time, an escalation in the summer-long protests that have shaken the city's government and residents.

The day's main showdown took place on a major drag in the outlying Tsuen Wan district following a protest march that ended in a nearby park. While a large crowd rallied in the park, a group of hard-line protesters took over a main street, strewing bamboo poles on the pavement and lining up orange and white traffic barriers and cones to obstruct police.

After hoisting warning flags, police used tear gas to try to disperse the crowd. Protesters responded by throwing bricks and gasoline bombs toward the police. The result was a surreal scene of small fires and scattered paving bricks on the street between the two sides, rising clouds of tear gas and green and blue laser lights pointed by the protesters at the police. The protesters eventually decided to abandon their position. Two water cannon

trucks and a phalanx of police vehicles with flashing lights joined riot police on foot as they advanced up the street. They met little resistance. Television footage showed a water cannon being fired once, but perhaps more as a test, as it didn't appear to reach the retreating protesters.

Officers pulled their guns after protesters chased them down a street with sticks and rods, calling them "gangsters." Public broadcaster RTHK said one of its reporters saw a uniformed officer fire a shot into the sky.

Some protesters said they're resorting to violence because the government has not responded to their peaceful demonstrations.

"The escalation you're seeing now is just a product of our government's indifference toward the people of Hong Kong," said Rory Wong, who was at the clash after the march.

One neighborhood resident, Dong Wong, complained about the tear gas. "I live on the 15th floor and I can even smell it at home," he said. "I have four dogs, sneezing, sneezing all day. ... The protesters didn't do anything, they just blocked the road to protect themselves."

Earlier Sunday, tens of thousands of umbrella-carrying



A policeman points a weapon during a protest in Hong Kong, Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019.

Associated Press

protesters marched in the rain. Many filled Tsuen Wan Park, the endpoint of the rally, chanting, "Fight for freedom, stand with Hong Kong," the South China Morning Post newspaper reported.

The march in Hong Kong's New Territories started near the Kwai Fong train station, which has become a focal point for protesters after police used tear gas there earlier this month. Police with riot gear could be

seen moving into position along the march route.

Protesters have taken to the semiautonomous Chinese territory's streets for more than two months. Their demands include democratic elections and an investigation into police use of force to quell the protests.

A large group clashed with police on Saturday after a march in the Kowloon Bay neighborhood, building barricades and setting fires in the streets. Police said they arrested 29 people for various offenses, including unlawful assembly, possession of offensive weapons and assaulting police officers.

The clashes, while not as prolonged or violent as some earlier ones, ended a brief lull in the violence. □



## N. Korea tests new 'super-large' multiple rocket launcher

Associated Press

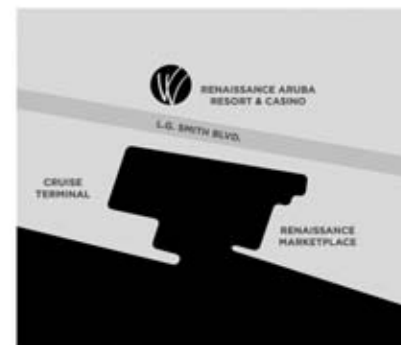
**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)** — North Korea says leader Kim Jong Un has supervised a test-firing of what it calls "newly developed super-large multiple rocket launcher."

The Korean Central News Agency says Saturday's weapons test was successful and cited Kim as saying the rocket launcher is "indeed a great weapon." The report likely referred to the projectile launches that South Korea detected on Saturday morning.

South Korea's military said North Korea fired two suspected short-range ballistic missiles off its east coast and that they flew about 380 kilometers (236 miles) at the maximum altitude of 97 kilometers (60 miles).

North Korea has been pushing to develop powerful multiple rocket launch systems, whose projectiles show missile-like flight distance and trajectory. The latest launches were the seventh weapons test by North Korea in a month. □

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# Brazilian troops begin deploying to fight Amazon fires

By MARCELO SILVA de SOUSA

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) —

Backed by military aircraft, Brazilian troops on Saturday were deploying in the Amazon to fight fires that have swept the region and prompted anti-government protests as well as an international outcry.

President Jair Bolsonaro also tried to temper global concern, saying that previously deforested areas had burned and that intact rainforest was spared. Even so, the fires were likely to be urgently discussed at a summit of the Group of Seven leaders in France this weekend.

Some 44,000 troops will be available for "unprecedented" operations to put out the fires, and forces are heading to six Brazilian states that asked for federal help, Defense Minister Fernando Azevedo said. The states are Roraima, Rondonia, Tocantins, Para, Acre and Mato Grosso.

The military's first mission will be carried out by 700 troops around Porto Velho, capital of Rondonia, Azevedo said. The military will use two C-130 Hercules aircraft capable of dumping up to 12,000 liters (3,170



Deforestation advances into the jungle near Jaci Parana, state of Rondonia, Brazil, Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

gallons) of water on fires, he said.

An Associated Press journalist flying over the Porto Velho region Saturday morning reported hazy conditions and low visibility. On Friday, the reporter saw many already deforested areas that were burned, apparently by people clearing farmland, as well as a large column of smoke billowing from one fire.

The municipality of Nova Santa Helena in Brazil's Mato Grosso state was also hard-hit. Trucks were seen

driving along a highway Friday as fires blazed and embers smoldered in adjacent fields.

The Brazilian military operations came after widespread criticism of Bolsonaro's handling of the crisis. On Friday, the president authorized the armed forces to put out fires, saying he is committed to protecting the Amazon region.

Azevedo, the defense minister, noted U.S. President Donald Trump's offer in a tweet to help Brazil fight the fires, and said there had

been no further contact on the matter.

Despite international concern, Bolsonaro told reporters on Saturday that the situation was returning to normal. He said he was "speaking to everyone" about the problem, including Trump, Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sánchez and several Latin American leaders.

Bolsonaro had described rainforest protections as an obstacle to Brazil's economic development, sparing with critics who say the Amazon absorbs vast

amounts of greenhouse gasses and is crucial for efforts to contain climate change.

The Amazon fires have become a global issue, escalating tensions between Brazil and European countries who believe Bolsonaro has neglected commitments to protect biodiversity. Protesters gathered outside Brazilian diplomatic missions in European and Latin American cities Friday, and demonstrators also marched in Brazil.

"The planet's lungs are on fire. Let's save them!" read a sign at a protest outside Brazil's embassy in Mexico City.

The dispute spilled into the economic arena when French leader Emmanuel Macron threatened to block a European Union trade deal with Brazil and several other South American countries.

"First we need to help Brazil and other countries put out these fires," Macron said Saturday.

The goal is to "preserve this forest that we all need because it is a treasure of our biodiversity and our climate thanks to the oxygen that it emits and thanks to the carbon it absorbs," he said. □

# Crowds fill Argentine streets to back conservative president

By LEONARDO LA VALLE

NATACHA PISARKENO

Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina

(AP) — Tens of thousands of Argentines jammed streets in the capital and other cities Saturday to show support for conservative President Mauricio Macri, who is facing a tough fight heading into general elections in October in a country beset with economic struggles.

Chanting "We can be better" and "Let's go together," a crowd that greatly exceeded expectations swelled outside the presidential palace in Buenos Aires just two weeks after a left-leaning presidential ticket turned in a far stronger showing than Macri's slate in political party pri-

mary voting.

An emotional Macri emerged on a balcony of the Casa Rosada to acknowledge his supporters, who responded to calls on social media to get out in the streets.

"How are we not going to get ahead, with you? Please, we can. Of course, we can. We're going to be better," the president said, with tears in his eyes.

The outpouring by his backers underlined the division and polarization in Argentina, where many voters used the Aug. 11 primary elections to show support for Alberto Fernández and his vice presidential running mate, former President Cristina Fernández. The two Fernández, who are not re-

lated, got 47.6% of the total votes cast, while Macri's slate was 15 points back.

Many Argentines are upset with Macri, who won the last election after campaigning on promises to get the economy going again, but inflation still runs at more than 40% a year and the currency has slumped while austerity moves by his government have angered many people.

But others worry a victory by the Fernández team will bring back the populist policies that characterized the presidency of Cristina Fernández, in which Alberto Fernández served as her first chief of staff. After the primary elections, Argentine stock prices fell and the already weak peso



Supporters of President Mauricio Macri react as him and his Juliana Awada wave from the balcony of the government house, in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

dropped 35% in three days. "Macri I give you 4 more years, Cristina we have given you enough," one banner proclaimed Saturday. One protester, Cristina

Rizo, said she doesn't want to see Cristina Fernández back in power. Macri's government "isn't perfect but I prefer that over Cristina," she said. □



## LOCAL



## Divi & Tamarijn All Inclusive make a Generous Donation



**ORANJESTAD —** Divi & Tamarijn All Inclusive Resorts were paired with Pius X elementary school on the Kids Council platform, an initiative by Dutch Princess Laurentien in which local 6 graders got to brainstorm, resolving adult challenges, in hospitality.

The initiative, now in its fourth year, resulted in collaboration beyond the council, and Divi & Tamarijn All Inclusive Resorts deserve recognition for the ongoing good work they do in our community.

On a recent Tuesday morning, the kids of elementary school Pius X in Dakota were waiting outside in the schoolyard, on the freshly laid asphalt, in a neatly arranged circle waiting for the headmistress to lead them in the morning prayer, followed by an exciting breakthrough.

The new, just-donated air-conditioners were going to be turned on that day.

Divi & Tamarijn All-Inclusive facilitated the installation of 12 air-conditioners in classrooms which previously offered education under uninsulated corrugated roof panels.

It was a long process, beginning in March, when an electrician went through the school wiring, redoing the installation. The work had to be inspected by ELMAR, then Crown came in

to hook things up.

Divi's Managing Director, Alex Nieuwmeyer, pressed the remote, cool air started flowing in, like magic.

The school belongs to SKOA, Stichting Katholiek Onderwijs, the foundation running 15 kindergartens, 25 elementary schools, 5 secondary schools and 1 school for students with special needs. Eighteen of the foundation's learning institutions are still on the list for air-conditioning installation.

SKOA's director Anuesca Baly was on hand to express gratitude to Divi on the fantastic donation, in time for the new school year.

The kids stood outside in a circle, impeccably groomed in their little yellow polo shirts and freshly combed morning-hair, the headmistress led the morning prayer, students crossed themselves judiciously, then sang the school's anthem, filled with gratitude and praise.

Any day, which starts with a prayer and a song is a good day, said the headmistress.

It was a touching moment, as the headmistress led two hundred little voices in a charming chant: Thank you Divi for the Airco. □





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The glow of Aqua Grill is obvious by entering the restaurant. The eclectic of a modern and a traditional New England fish house style appeal and the open-view kitchen adds to the thrill. Let's see what is on the menu. Deep down delicious seafood is what you are craving for and that is exactly what you will get. Welcome in the theatre of the sea, let us entertain you.

The Core  
Secretly, we all know that the success of a restaurant has its core in the kitchen. That is where the chef creates his magic and for Aqua Grill the culinary team won a range of

awards for their continuous delivery of haute-cuisine del mar. Classic seafood is mingled with contemporary ideas resulting in surprising dishes that soon made the restaurant a must-dine, confirmed by established travel media specialists like Fodor's.

Aqua Grill invites you to get hooked on the largest raw bar of the island and dive into the wine list of over one hundred selected choices. Local and international catches create an impressive menu including snapper, grouper, mahi-mahi, Chilean salmon, sashimi tuna, Main lobster and Alaskan king crabs. Non-seafood options are part of the menu selection as well. Many locals and visitors are already a regular, we are convinced you want to join that group after your first experience. ☐

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## Argentinian couple honored at Eagle Aruba Resort & Casino

EAGLE BEACH — Recently, Darline de Cuba had the great pleasure to honor loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba as Goodwill Ambassadors at their home away from home. The symbolic honorary title is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, as a token of appreciation to the guests who visit Aruba between 10-20-35 and more consecutive years.

The honorees were: Mr. Eduardo Ramallo & Mrs. Yvet Figueroa-Espinoza, residents of Buenos Aires, Argentina who have been visiting the Island for 27 years consecutively. The couple loves coming to the island for the warm inviting sun, the lovely people of Aruba, the great selection of restaurants and the feeling of safety everywhere.

De Cuba together with representatives of the resort, Mrs. Janith Agunbero, Activities Manager Mr. Rafael Wever, front office Manager and Ms. Arelis Dania thanked them for choosing Aruba as their vacation destination and as their home away from home for so many years. □







## Historical Museum Aruba celebrates 35 years of love and cultural achievement

ORANJESTAD — Located at a strategic site of Oranjestad the Museo Historico Arubano (MHA) or Historical Museum Aruba is one of the most beloved museums on the island. The fact that the building is part of an important passage in history makes the museum already interesting and a symbol to the islands development. Now this mu-

seum celebrates its 35th birthday, a day to honor.

In 1792 a commissioner from Curacao, the neighboring island, decided to build a fort in Oranjestad to protect the island in a time that revolutionary ideas caused some turbulence in the region. Playa Caballos (Paardenbaai or Horses Bay) turned into an active

harbor rapidly and shortly after the name of the town was changed into Oranjestad to honor the Dutch Royal family but also to emphasize the expectations for the town. From the moment the Fort Zoutman was constructed more people came to live in Oranjestad to find a better future. In history the building Fort Zoutman functioned as de-



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fense, light house, governmental office, police station and for all as a symbol of the town's growth while at the same time being of sentimental value to the people in the sense of identity and cultural inheritance.

35 years ago the historical museum opened its doors with the goal to present different aspects of our history in the best possible way. The museum is the first within the construction of the Fundacion Museo Arubano (FMA) meaning the Foundation of Aruban Museums. In this light the museum takes part in the role of being an example for preservation and development of the museums of Aruba. At this moment an exposition is being prepared that

will show an overview of the different themes that were presented by the museum in the past. The exposition will be opened by the end of this year. With this said the museum hopes to stimulate the people to gain knowledge, show interest in research and preservation of our culture. Also restoration plans and extension of the museum are on the program for the future. To the historical museum, located within Fort Zoutman, it is an honor and responsibility to maintain the building that plays such an important role in Aruba's history but also to dedicate to the preservation, protection and promotion of our cultural heritage as a foundation. □



Aruban born and bred Steve Francees has a passion for photography. Being a local photographer he knows the hidden gems of this island and captures them in an amazing way. As a Family and Landscape photographer Steve is ready to create your next 'vacation memories', morning and/or sunset shots. T: (297) 738-0777, M: stevefrancees@hotmail.com, [www.instagram.com/stevefrancees](http://www.instagram.com/stevefrancees) and [www.stevefrancees.com](http://www.stevefrancees.com)



## Bushiribana Gold Mine



Bushiribana Gold Mine is one of the most visited ruins on the island. The gold rush started officially when a twelve years old Aruban boy Willem Rasmijn encountered this precious metal. It has been said that 3 million pounds of pure gold were produced during the gold rush period that ended during World War I in 1916. Gold can still be seen sparkling inside the Bushiribana Gold mine in a very secret location.

## Arashi beach



The best time to jump into the water of Arashi Beach is early in the morning, around 7:30am. The colors are very white tinted with amazing morning clouds. The second best time is around 10:45am when the sun has the perfect angle for you to see the many colors of blue. The third best time at this beach is at sunset and I must tell you that it's a lifetime experience to see sunset at this beach. The palm trees at this beach will add an extra vibe into your photo and if you try the silhouette with the palm trees, sure you will have an amazing sunset shot around 6:45pm.

## Fun Shots in Aruba



Vacation is a very special week to enjoy life and do fun things too. You dress differently and everywhere you go here in Aruba you will see happy faces on the one happy island. So take home some fun shots and so you can be creative and come up with stupid poses that will make amazing photos. Fun shots that will forever trigger quality loving family time and brings back nice memories every time you see the photos.

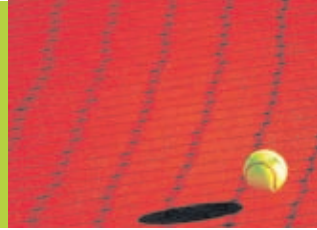
## The new Natural Pool



This pool was discovered 4 years ago and now it's an amazing natural pool and also a must visit. Yes, it's dangerous going down the wooden stairs but ones down at the pool you will forget the fear you had going down. It's an extraordinary feeling when swimming in this pool. If Steven Spielberg sees this beauty he will for sure do some filming here in Aruba for Indiana Jones 5.



# SPORTS



Seattle Seahawks running back C.J. Prosise (22) celebrates his touchdown against the Los Angeles Chargers during the first half of an NFL pre-season football game Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019, in Carson, Calif.

Associated Press

## Wilson leads 2 TD drives as Seahawks defeat Chargers 23-15

By JOE REEDY

Associated Press

**CARSON, Calif. (AP)** — Russell Wilson feels prepared to go into the regular season.

Seattle's eight-year veteran led a pair of first-half touchdown drives and accounted for 104 yards, helping the Seahawks to a 23-15 victory over the Los Angeles Chargers on Saturday night.

"I think we feel great. We executed everything we wanted to do," said Wilson, who completed 6 of 9 passes for 73 yards and had 31 rushing yards. "We ran the ball really well and got some balls down the field."

Wilson has directed the Seahawks to a pair of TDs and a field goal in five possessions in two preseason games. It is unlikely that he will play in Thursday's pre-season finale against Oakland as Seattle opens the regular season on Sept. 8 against Cincinnati.

Continued on Page 19



## Control Alt Home Altuve homers in big inning, Astros beat Angels 11-2

Houston Astros' Martin Maldonado, right, celebrates his two run home run as he crosses the plate in front of Los Angeles Angels catcher Kevin Smith, left, during the seventh inning of a baseball game Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press





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Continued from Page 18

"We've been ready to go. I'm glad these two games were on the road and get that feeling of the rush and what that feels like," Wilson said.

Seattle's rushed for 125 yards and averaged 6.0 yards per carry during the first half. C.J. Prosise (5 carries, 32 yards) and Rashaad Penny (8 carries, 22 yards) scored touchdowns while Chris Carson had 23 yards on three attempts on the first drive.

"We really wanted to run the football and be efficient," Seattle coach Pete Carroll said. "The running backs did a real nice job and that's a tribute to the system."

The Seahawks (2-1) were at their own 38 to start the second quarter when Wilson connected for 20- and 30-yard completions to Tyler Lockett. On fourth-and-1 from the Los Angeles 3, Penny barreled into the end zone to put Seattle up 7-3 with 11:30 remaining.

Wilson, who had 31 yards rushing on three carries,

took advantage of a short field on the next possession after the Chargers turned it over on downs. He threw an 18-yard pass to Jaron Brown on second-and-18 to move Seattle to the Los Angeles 31. Four plays later, Prosise went up the middle from a yard out to extend the lead to 13-3.

Philip Rivers and Keenan Allen did not suit up for a third straight game, with Chargers coach Anthony Lynn sticking to his pre-training camp plan of resting his veterans. With Melvin Gordon continuing to hold out, the running game struggled as Austin Ekeler and Justin Jackson combined for 23 yards on nine carries. The offensive line also continued to have its difficulties. Tyrod Taylor was on the run most of the time, finishing 6 of 9 for 61 yards in three possessions. Taylor also was the Chargers' leading rusher with 34 yards on six carries.

"For three quarters there wasn't a whole lot to be excited about in my opinion," Lynn said. "We did not do

a good job of containing their quarterbacks." Easton Stick led the Chargers to a pair of scores in the fourth quarter to get them within eight.

The fifth-round pick had an 8-yard strike to Andre Patton with 9:26 remaining. Stick then ran around right end from 4 yards out on the next drive to get the Chargers within 23-15.

"I started looking left and just didn't see anybody open. Andre did a good job separating from his guy and made a play," Stick said about his pass to Patton. Los Angeles (0-3) had the ball late in the fourth but the drive stalled on its 48 when a wide-open Justice Liggins slipped on a pass on fourth-and-10.

#### BACKUP QB BATTLES

Former Charger Geno Smith was 11 for 18 for 117 yards as he battles Paxton Lynch for the Seahawks' backup spot. Smith also ran for a 9-yard TD during the third quarter to put Seattle up 23-3. Lynch did not play after taking a helmet-to-helmet hit in the last game



Los Angeles Chargers tight end Sean Culkin, right, is tackled by Seattle Seahawks cornerback Jamar Taylor during the second half of an NFL preseason football game Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019, in Carson, Calif.

Associated Press

at Minnesota.

Cardale Jones and Stick are competing for the Chargers' third spot. Jones, who was 4 of 5 for 50 yards, has played well the last two games while Stick bounced back after struggling last week against New Orleans. "They are competing. It very well could," said Lynn when asked if the last QB spot could be the final roster decision.

#### KICKING WOES

The teams combined for three missed extra points. Los Angeles' Ty Long was 0 for 2, going wide left and having another blocked.

#### SHORT-YARDAGE WOES

Lynn has tried to give his beleaguered offensive line some confidence by going for it on short yardage on fourth down in two preseason games, but it has backfired. □



# Houston Astros vs. Los Angeles Angels

**HOUSTON (AP)** — The Astros finally began to barrel up baseballs in the eighth inning, and it seemed like they might never stop.

Jose Altuve's career-high tying 24th home run capped a seven-run eighth after Framber Valdez grind-ed through six gritty innings, and Houston beat the Los Angeles Angels 11-2 Sunday.

Alex Bregman, Abraham Toro and Josh Reddick also drove in runs in the eighth as the Astros sent 11 batters to the plate.

"We did a good job of doing everything right," Astros manager AJ Hinch said.

"We took advantage of a few mistakes, we hit the ball in a couple of good spots to capitalize on a couple



Houston Astros starting pitcher Framber Valdez throws against the Los Angeles Angels during the first inning of a baseball game Sunday, Aug. 25, 2019, in Houston.

Associated Press

of hits, a couple of big swings. Just everybody kind of dialed in and we had an explosive inning and separated ourselves and had a comfortable win."

Houston has won seven of eight. The club entered the day tied with the Yankees for the best record in the AL at 84-47.

"Play our game, we can't really get stuck scoreboard watching," Reddick said. "Happens every year, team's get so caught up in looking at the out of town scoreboard. That's all fine and dandy once we've gotten our wins. When that happens, we can watch all we want to."

Michael Brantley led off the eighth with a single, extending his hitting streak to 18 games. Reddick's two-run double gave him three RBIs. It was Reddick's first RBIs since Aug. 10 and first multihit game since July 14. "It was good to get in there and contribute today and it actually mean something," Reddick said. "A lot of my at-bats haven't meant anything lately because we're usually up 3-0 by the time I get up. That's a good problem to have."

Valdez was called up from Triple-A Round Rock and earned his first win since June 15, ending a streak of four-straight losses.

Valdez (4-6) gave up one run, two hits and five walks but struck out eight, which tied a season high. He ran into trouble in the third, loading the bases with no outs. Back-to-back strikeouts and then a groundout by Albert Pujols kept the Angels off the board.

"I just wanted to throw my best pitches and focus and make sure that I executed my best pitches so that I could get them out," he said through a translator.

Martin Maldonado hit a two-run homer in the seventh to extend the lead to 4-1. Jaime Barria (4-7) only gave up two runs but still was stuck with his fourth-straight loss. Barria allowed three hits, struck out four and walked three in 5 1/3 innings.

"I know I have to bring my

A-game especially with a lineup like that," Barria said through a translator.

Andrelton Simmons and Brian Goodwin hit solo home runs for the Angels.

"Obviously, we didn't have a very good offensive game," Angels manager Brad Ausmus said. "We had really the one missed opportunity with the bases loaded and nobody out."

## TRAINER'S ROOM

Angels: INF Tommy La Stella (right tibia fracture) resumed baseball activities Saturday. La Stella took some ground balls, hit off the tee and did soft toss.

Astros: SS Carlos Correa (lower back stiffness) did agility work and light running but is still not hitting or throwing. The Astros hope to increase his activity over the coming days including being able to do batting practice and fielding ground balls. ... Aledmys Díaz (foot) was set to continue his rehab assignment with Triple-A Round Rock on Sunday, splitting time between shortstop and third base. Hinch said he could be reactivated by Tuesday.

## UP NEXT

Angels: LHP Andrew Heaney (3-3, 4.31 ERA) will start the series opener against the Rangers on Tuesday after a day off. Heaney is looking to build off his last start, where he struck out a career-high 14 in eight innings, which came against the Rangers.

Astros: RHP Justin Verlander (15-5, 2.77 ERA) will start the series opener against the Rays on Tuesday after a day off. Verlander is coming off a complete-game loss to the Tigers where he struck out 11 and walked none. Former Astros RHP Charlie Morton (13-5, 2.85) is slated to pitch for Tampa Bay.

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# Luck announces retirement following Colts loss to Bears

By MICHAEL MAROT

Associated Press

**INDIANAPOLIS (AP)** — Andrew Luck watched one last game from the sideline Saturday.

Then he said goodbye to the NFL.

The Indianapolis Colts quarterback heard boos as he walked away from the field, then walked to the podium and made the surprise decision official. The oft-injured star is retiring at age 29.

"I'm in pain, I'm still in pain. It's been four years of this pain, rehab cycle," Luck said. "It's a myriad of issues — calf strain, posterior ankle impingement, high ankle sprain. Part of my journey going forward will be figuring out how to feel better."

Luck wasn't planning to make the announcement following Saturday's 27-17 loss to the Chicago Bears. But when ESPN first reported the news during the fourth quarter, Luck changed the plan for a Sunday afternoon announcement. Instead, he held a 25-minute impromptu news conference.

At times he sounded wistful. At others, his voice cracked with emotion.

One thing was clear: The endless barrage of injuries stripped away his joy for the game and prompted him to walk away so he could enjoy the life he wants.

"There's no doubt when you hear him talk about the cycle of pain and injury and rehab, you can hear that," coach Frank Reich said. "There's a saying in football that everyone knows and everybody lives by, it's next man up and even though this situation is unique, no one is exempt."

That task now falls to Jacoby Brissett, a fourth-year player whom the Colts ac-



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Andrew Luck speaks during a news conference following the team's NFL preseason football game against the Chicago Bears, Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019, in Indianapolis.

Associated Press

quired in a cutdown weekend trade two years ago who has been practicing with the starters since April. He went 4-11 as a starter in the 2017 season after taking over for opening day starter Scott Tolzien. But the Colts had already been preparing for the possibility Luck might not be ready for the Sept. 8 season opener against the Los Angeles Chargers. Luck was diagnosed with a strained left calf in March and team officials kept him out of all of the team's offseason workouts.

He returned to limited action when training camp opened in late July. After three practices, though, the lingering pain near his ankle forced him back into rehab. He hadn't practiced with the team since, though he did throw passes in pregame warmups before last week's preseason game.

"I had a thought that it might be my last time throwing at Lucas Oil as a current

member of the Colts team," Luck said. "And I wanted to make sure I could go out and enjoy it."

It wasn't just the leg, though. He played with shoulder pain for most of 2015 and 2016, and his 2015 season ended when he suffered a lacerated kidney. He missed all of 2017 following shoulder surgery and then the happy-go-lucky former Stanford star dealt with more pain and more endless months of rehab. The Colts bet big on Luck in 2012.

They cut an injured Peyton Manning to take Luck with the top overall pick, fully believing he would be their franchise quarterback for the next 10 to 15 years. Team owner Jim Irsay called it a "no-brainer" because his aging team needed to rebuild.

"I never felt that he (Luck) owed me to play until he's 40 or until he's 36 or whatever," Irsay said. "I mean, this is an unusual situation." Luck delivered quickly on

his promise.

He led the Colts to the playoffs in each of his first three seasons and to the AFC championship game after the 2014 season — without missing a start. But a subpar offensive line struggled to keep Luck upright and in 2015, the shoulder and kidney injuries forced him to miss nine games. The Colts finished 8-8 and missed the playoffs.

In 2016, after Luck opted not to have shoulder surgery, then coach Chuck Pagano gave Luck extra days off to try and keep him healthy. Luck made 15 starts that season though the Colts again finished 8-8 and missed the playoffs. While Luck had surgery for a partially torn labrum in January 2017, he never felt right and after throwing for two weeks in the fall was shut down for the rest of the season.

Last year, Luck looked like his old self. He established career highs in attempts (639), completions (430)

and completion rate (67.3 percent), throwing for 4,593 yards with 39 touchdowns and 15 interceptions as he led the Colts back to the playoffs, earned his fourth Pro Bowl selection and was the runaway winner of the league's Comeback Player of the Year award.

Then came the mysterious calf-ankle injury that again never felt quite right.

So after marrying his long-time girlfriend this spring and now awaiting the birth of his first child, Luck called it quits.

"I am going to retire," he said. "This is not an easy decision. It's the hardest decision of my life. But it is the right decision for me."

Players around the league were just as stunned as the Colts.

"It was mind-blowing," Houston Texans quarterback Deshaun Watson said. "It's something that of course caught everyone off guard. He can control his own future. He's a great player. He's a great quarterback. One of the top five quarterbacks in the league. He's doing it for the right reasons for himself."

Kansas City quarterback Patrick Mahomes, the reigning MVP, said: "Knowing Andrew he's a great football player, of course, but he's also a great human being — I know that he's going to make the right decision for himself and his family."

Reich had said he hoped to have an answer about Luck's availability for the Sept. 8 season opener after the third preseason game. This might not have been the one he wanted — and certainly didn't expect.

"Teams win, don't write the end of the story yet," Colts general manager Chris Ballard said. "I'm telling you the story's not over yet." □



# Stokes leads England to stunning win in Ashes 3rd test

**LEEDS, England (AP)** — Cricket World Cup hero Ben Stokes scored a stunning 135 not out as England kept its Ashes hopes alive with a dramatic one-wicket win over Australia in the third test at Headingley. Stokes scored the winning four Sunday in the afternoon session on Day 4 as England finished on 362-9 in its second innings — chasing what seemed an improbable 359 — after an unbeaten 76-run stand for the 10th wicket with Jack Leach, who scored only 1 run in the partnership. It's the highest successful fourth-innings chase by England in a test match. Stokes was dropped by Marcus Harris at third man off Pat Cummins and survived an easy runout chance and clear lbw decision close to the end. The allrounder finished with 11 fours and eight sixes overall in one of the greatest innings by an England batter. "Today was incredible," Stokes said. "I don't quite know what to say. It hasn't sunk in yet." The teams are now level at 1-1 in the series. Australia would have secured the famous urn with a 2-0 lead and only two tests remaining in the five-match series.



England's Ben Stokes celebrates winning on day four of the third Ashes cricket Test match against Australia at Headingley, Leeds, England, Sunday Aug. 25, 2019.

Associated Press

England started the day on 156-3, still needing 203 more runs to win and stay alive in cricket's oldest regular international series. Captain Joe Root (77) was out early but Stokes and Jonny Bairstow (36) shared an 86-run stand for the fifth wicket, taking England from 159-4 to 245-5 when Josh Hazlewood (4-85) dismissed Bairstow. England No. 11 Leach survived as Stokes' final partner, with the pair coming

together on 286-9. When their 50-run partnership came up, the spinner still hadn't scored. His 1 not out — which leveled the scores — came off 17 balls. Stokes was man of the match in England's Super Over win over New Zealand in the World Cup final exactly six weeks ago. "It's one I'll never forget," Stokes said on Sky Sports after Sunday's test win. "I've got to try and take it all in. I'm not sure it'll ever hap-

pen again. It's one of the two best feelings I've ever felt on a cricket pitch." Australia, which was missing injured star batter Steve Smith, scored 179 and 246. England was dismissed for only 67 in its first innings, making the final victory for the hosts even more remarkable. **WASTED CHANCES** Australia had two chances to snatch a famous win of its own in the 125th over of an epic innings, but they

instead go down as footnotes in Stokes' story. With England still one run behind, Nathan Lyon dropped a throw from Cummins at the bowler's end when a clean take would have allowed him to easily run out the over-exuberant Leach with ease. Stokes aimed a big slog-sweep at the very next delivery, missing but given not out leg before wicket by umpire Joel Wilson. Replays showed he was out but Australia had wasted its last review in the previous over on a hopeless shout against Leach. Three balls later Leach fended Cummins to leg for one, guaranteeing a tie, leaving the stage for Stokes. He did not linger, planting Cummins through the covers for a winning boundary before letting loose a guttural roar. The fourth test starts Sept. 4 at Old Trafford. Australia won the previous Ashes series 4-0 Down Under in 2017-18. **ALIVE AND KICKING** Day 4 began with four maiden overs and the early dismissal of key man Root, who added just two runs to his overnight 75 before being brilliantly caught at slip by David Warner via bat and pad. □

# Takuma Sato wins IndyCar stop at World Wide



Takuma Sato enters Turn 1 during the IndyCar auto race at World Wide Technology Raceway on Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019, in Madison, Ill.

Associated Press

**By KEN ROBERTS**  
**Associated Press**  
**MADISON, Ill. (AP)** — Takuma Sato held off Ed Carpenter to win the Indy-

Car race Saturday night at World Wide Technology Raceway. Sato won by 0.399 seconds. Tony Kaanan was third, fol-

lowed by Santino Ferrucci and Simon Pagenaud. Sato's second victory of the season comes on the heels of his highly scrutinized move on the first lap at Pocono last week that helped trigger a major accident. "After the difficult circumstances and coming here ... the win is so big," said Sato, the 2016 Indianapolis 500 champion. "We came back. Of course we had some luck. It was tough the last five laps with the tire degradation. But I couldn't throw this away after the tough circumstances. "I just wanted to bring the car home, which we did. This win is so special, this is just so emotionally to do it." Pole-sitter and series points leader Josef Newgarden

spun coming out of Turn 4 of the last lap and finished seventh. "We actually missed a bit (on the setup) in the long run," Newgarden said. "Our setup didn't favor the tires for the long run. I thought we were in the right window last night. But we learned tonight we weren't for the longevity." Newgarden extended his points lead over teammate Pagenaud. Newgarden has 563 points to Pagenaud's 525. Alexander Rossi is third with 517. Sato led 61 laps and denied Team Penske a sweep of the ovals this season. He also raced to a sorely needed win for Rahal Letterman Lanigan Racing. Defending race champion

Will Power finished last after he crashed in Turn 4 of lap 54. **CHAMPIONSHIP DREAMS** IndyCar's Astor Cup, awarded to the series champion every year, was on display on pit road before the race along with the NHL's Stanley Cup. The St. Louis Blues won the Stanley Cup for the first time in June. **PAY UP** Sato's team and Spencer Pigot's team will be paying fines after each driver ran over equipment during a pit stop. **UP NEXT** IndyCar's next stop is the road course at Portland International Raceway on Sept. 1 for the Grand Prix of Portland. Sato is the defending champion. □



# Man City, Spurs discover high bar for VAR on penalty calls

By ROB HARRIS  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — With VAR in its third weekend in the Premier League, Manchester City and Tottenham now know just how high the threshold is for penalty calls to be overturned by video reviews.

City was denied a penalty even when Bournemouth midfielder Jefferson Lerma stood on David Silva's foot. The champions were leading at the time and Sergio Aguero went on to score his second goal in a 3-1 win. But Tottenham had no such good fortune against Newcastle later on Sunday. Trailing to Joelinton's goal, Tottenham thought it had a late chance to grab an equalizer when Harry Kane tumbled after being impeded in the penalty area by Jamaal Lascelles.

But referee Mike Dean had already let play continue without awarding a spot kick. And when the VAR review finally took place, the original decision was not overruled — indicating a lack of clear evidence the original decision was wrong — and Newcastle won 1-0. Tottenham lost its first match of the season a week after VAR did help the London club gain a point at the Etihad Stadium when a City handball was spotted in the run-up to what looked like being Gabriel Jesus' winner.



Manchester City's Sergio Aguero celebrates scoring his side's third goal of the game during the English Premier League soccer match between Bournemouth and Manchester City at the Vitality Stadium, Bournemouth, England, Sunday Aug. 25, 2019.

Associated Press

City manager Pep Guardiola is exasperated by how VAR is being applied. "It was clear hands last game, clear hands. A penalty today? No, please," Guardiola said sarcastically. "The challenge this season will be amazing for us after winning back-to-back two titles, the challenge will be great." Tottenham manager Mauricio Pochettino wasn't going to blame the application of the new technology. "I trust in the VAR," Pochettino said. "I am happy to have VAR and more than

happy that they check. But if it's not a penalty you keep going." There was one penalty awarded on Sunday, enabling Wolverhampton to grab a stoppage time equalizer against Burnley. Unlike in the City and Tottenham games, referee Craig Pawson had already pointed to the spot when Raúl Jiménez was fouled by Erik Pieters. Jiménez netted from the spot to cancel out Ashley Barnes' strike and seal a 1-1 draw for Wolves. **SILVA SERVICE** On his 400th City appear-

ance, David Silva was as influential as ever in pulling the strings for his team. With City already leading through Aguero's strike, Silva slipped in the ball for Sterling to get his fifth goal in three league games. It came just before Harry Wilson scored directly from a brilliant free kick to reduce the deficit back to a single goal before halftime. Then, after Silva was denied a penalty after being caught by Lerma, the Spaniard jinked into the penalty area to set up Aguero for City's third.

"He has a sense to move between the lines like nobody else in the world," Guardiola said of Silva. "He is a fighter."

## UNCERTAIN FUTURE

Tottenham looks to Christen Eriksen to unpick teams like Silva does for City. That's when the Dane is starting. Just like in the opening game against Aston Villa, Eriksen was only deployed in the second half as doubts linger over his future ahead of the transfer window closing on the continent in a week.

"It is so difficult the situation," Pochettino said. Unlike against Villa, when Eriksen's arrival inspired a comeback, Tottenham couldn't find a way to break through a resolute Newcastle.

Kane barely got a touch in the opposition penalty area and Son Heung-min was lacking sharpness on his first appearance of the season after serving a suspension. Jan Vertonghen hasn't been injured. But after being dropped from the squad against Villa, the defender has now watched successive games as an unused substitute.

Davison Sanchez fared no better in central defense, allowing Christian Atsu's cross to fly over him as the unmarked Joelinton had the space to control the ball before striking past goalkeeper Hugo Lloris. □

# Ko, Broch Larsen tied for lead at CP Women's Open

**AURORA, Ontario (AP)** — Top-ranked Jin Young Ko shot a 7-under 65 on Saturday to grab a share of the lead heading into the final round of the CP Women's Open. Ko is tied with Nicole Broch Larsen at 18 under at Magna Golf Club. Defending champion Brooke Henderson of Canada is another two shots back in third. Ko, winner of two major championships this year, is seeking her fourth win overall. The last LPGA player to win four times in a season was Lydia Ko in 2016. Henderson also shot a 65 in the third round, tying for

low round of the day. Broch Larsen posted her third straight 66. Broch Larsen, of Denmark, is winless in three seasons on the LPGA Tour and came in 89th in the season points standings. She held the 54-hole lead at the 2017 CP Women's Open and finished tied for third. Henderson got off to a tough start, but got back on track after an encounter with a fan. "I felt like I was playing decent golf, but it just wasn't really going my way," the 21-year-old Henderson said. "Then on the seventh green a little boy gave me a high five and then



Jin Young Ko, of South Korea, tosses a golf ball to her caddie on the first green during the third round of the CP Women's Open in Aurora, Ontario, Canada, Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

he continued that the rest of the round. "He kind of cheered me up a little bit. I think I tried to get back to even on the front nine. Going to the eighth tee I was trying to just make two birdies, get it back to even, and then see if I could go really low on the back."

Wei-Ling Hsu was alone in fourth at 13 under after posting a 65. Amy Olson, Nasa Hataoka and Pajaree Anannarukarn were in a group at 12 under.

Olson has an outside shot at making the U.S. Solheim Cup team via the world ranking in the final week of qualifying. □



# US tech industry becomes hotbed for employee activism

By SAMANTHA MALDONADO

Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

When Liz O'Sullivan was hired at the New York City-based artificial intelligence company Clarifai in 2017, she felt lucky to find work at the intersection of two of her main interests: technology and ethics. Two years later, she found herself facing a moral dilemma.

Clarifai was developing aerial photography and object detection tools as one of several companies working on Project Maven, a Pentagon drone surveillance program. After several conversations with friends and colleagues, O'Sullivan realized this type of technology eventually could be used for autonomous weapons.

In January, she wrote to Clarifai CEO Matt Zeiler on behalf of a group of employees, seeking clarification on whether the technology would be used to create weapons and asking him to commit to a series of ethical measures. Zeiler later explained at a meeting that Clarifai likely would provide tech for autonomous weapons. O'Sullivan quit the next day. "I was very surprised and had to follow my conscience," she said. Zeiler and Clarifai did not respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press. In a 2018 blog, Zeiler defended Clarifai's involvement in Project Maven, saying it aligned with the company's mission of accelerating human progress with continually improving AI.

O'Sullivan, 34, considers herself part of a "growing backlash against unethical tech," a groundswell in the past two years in which U.S. tech employees have tried to remake the industry from the inside out — pushing for more control over how their work is used and urging better conditions, job security and wages for affiliated workers.

While some speak out and others sign petitions and attend rallies, workers are collectively taking action like



In this photo taken July 16, 2019, tech workers march to support Facebook's cafeteria workers, who were rallying for a new contract with their company Flagship in San Francisco.

Associated Press

never before:

— Amazon and Microsoft employees demanded the companies stop providing services to software company Palantir, which provides technology to federal agencies including Immigration and Customs Enforcement and the U.S. Army.

— Amazon employees also have urged the company to transition to renewable energy and confronted CEO Jeff Bezos at a shareholder meeting.

— Following last year's walkouts over Google's handling of sexual misconduct cases, employees signed a letter protesting Project Dragonfly, a search engine that would comply with Chinese censorship.

— Staff at Salesforce, Microsoft and Google have protested their companies' ties to Customs and Border Protection, ICE and the military.

Despite six-figure salaries and unlimited vacation time, many tech workers are questioning the effects of their work and joining forces with their more precarious blue-collar, service and contract-worker counterparts, pressing for better work conditions and pay.

"It's unprecedented, both the magnitude of the power of these companies and the willingness of white-

collar employees to shake themselves of the privilege that they have and to really see the impact of the work they're doing," said Veena Dubal, a professor at the University of California Hastings College of the Law who has interviewed dozens of tech workers involved in organizing.

They're feeling emboldened because of national and global "existential crises" and the realization that tech companies "have more power than any multinational corporation has had in a long time," Dubal said.

The phenomenon is particularly strong in the San Francisco Bay Area, home to Salesforce, Google and Palantir, among others. The bastion of activism and progressive culture has been hit hard by the tech boom's housing affordability crisis.

"There's a lot of power (that) people are being asked to build for the shareholders of these companies and the management of these companies," said Ian Busher, 28, a former contract analyst for Google and an organizer with the Bay Area chapter of Democratic Socialists of America. "If you want to make the world a better place, you should exercise judgment and democracy with the people

you're working with to build these tools."

Facebook and Palantir did not respond to requests for comment.

An Amazon spokesperson declined to comment on employee activism but noted the Seattle-based company is committed to sustainability and said it provides good pay and benefits and humane conditions at its warehouses. At the stakeholder meeting, Bezos didn't directly address employees' renewable energy demands but referred to some sustainability efforts already underway.

A Microsoft spokesperson said the company, headquartered in the Seattle area, appreciates employee feedback, respects differing views and provides "many avenues for all voices to be heard."

A Google spokesperson did not comment on specific incidents but emphasized that retaliation is prohibited and pointed to CEO Sundar Pichai's previous statements on worker dissent.

"There are many things good about giving employees a lot of voice," he said at a November conference. "There are decisions we make which they may not agree with."

Congress has begun to aggressively scrutinize the industry in recent years, and

the Justice Department last month launched an investigation into big tech companies amid antitrust allegations. A recent Pew Research Center survey indicated Americans have an increasingly negative view of tech's effect on the country.

"As an employee in the tech sector right now, there is a fair bit of guilt or (asking), 'What is my responsibility?'" said Kellie McElhaney, a professor at the Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley.

Amr Gaber, 32, a Google engineer, was among several tech workers at a July demonstration in front of Facebook's San Francisco office supporting cafeteria workers seeking a new contract. He said although the white-collar workers are more privileged, they're all working people.

"Our fortunes are tied together," Gaber said. "If the (companies) can't even treat the people who work for them well, then how can we expect them to have a positive impact on society?"

There's evidence companies are listening.

Google and Facebook pledged to pay contract workers better and provide some benefits. Google ended forced arbitration for sexual misconduct cases after its employees walked out. Following employee outcry, Google declined to renew its contract with the Pentagon for work on Project Maven.

When employees asked Microsoft to cancel its contract with ICE, CEO Satya Nadella clarified that the company was not contributing to family separations at the border but supporting email, calendar and document systems.

A Salesforce spokesperson said conversations with employees led the company to create the Office of Ethical and Humane Use of Technology and "hire a chief ethical and humane use officer to develop guidelines and evaluate situations around the ethical use and development of our technology." □



# As global economic picture dims, solutions seem out of reach

By PAUL WISEMAN  
DAVID McHUGH  
JOSH BOAK

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — As global leaders gather on two continents to take account of a darkening economic outlook, this is the picture they face:

Factories are slumping, many businesses are paralyzed, global growth is sputtering and the world's two mightiest economies are in the grip of a dangerous trade war.

Barely a year after most of the world's major countries were enjoying an unusual moment of shared prosperity, the global economy may be at risk of returning to the rut it tumbled into after the financial crisis of 2007-2009.

Worse, solutions seem far from obvious. Central banks can't just slash interest rates. Rates are already ultra-low. And even if they did, the central banks would risk robbing themselves of the ammunition they would need later to fight a recession. High government debts make it politically problematic to cut taxes or pour money into new bridges, roads and other public works projects. "Our tools for fighting recession are no doubt more limited (than) in the past," said Karen Dynan, an economist at Harvard University's Kennedy School.

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have downgraded the outlook for world growth. On Thursday, Moody's Investors Service said it expects the global economy to expand 2.7% this year and next — down from 3.2% the previous two years. And it issued a dark warning: Get used to it.

"The new normal will likely continue for the next three to four years," the credit rating agency said.

Concerns are rising just as central bankers meet in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, and leaders of the Group of Seven advanced economies gather this weekend in the resort town of Biarritz in southwestern France. A spotlight will shine, in partic-



Tourists walk on the beach promenade as French police officers stand guard ahead of the upcoming G7 Summit in Biarritz, France, Saturday, Aug. 24, 2019.

Associated Press

ular, on whatever message Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell sends in a speech Friday in Jackson Hole.

The dour global outlook partly reflects U.S. President Donald Trump's combative trade conflicts with China and other countries. A realization has taken hold that Trump will likely keep deploying tariffs — and in some cases escalating them — to try to beat concessions out of trading partners.

"The trade uncertainty is here to stay," said Madhavi Bokil, senior credit officer at Moody's.

Squeezed by protectionism, global trade is likely to grow just 2.5% this year, its slowest pace in three years, the IMF says. Manufacturers, whose fortunes are closely tied to trade, are struggling. J.P. Morgan's global manufacturing index dropped in July for a third straight month, hitting the lowest level since 2012. The global funk also reflects the pull of gravity: The economies of Europe and Japan, fueled by central banks' easy-money policies, overexerted themselves a couple of years ago and are now returning to their more typical state: Sluggishness.

The IMF expects China's economy, the world's second-biggest, to grow 6.2%

this year — the weakest since 1990 — and just 6% next year. Trump's trade war is certainly a factor. The president has imposed tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports and is set to tax nearly \$300 billion more before year's end. China's slowdown is also being orchestrated in part by the officials in Beijing, who are trying to contain lending to control the country's runaway debts.

And an economic chill in China sends shivers into the many countries — from copper-producing Chile to iron ore-making Australia — that feed Chinese factories with raw materials.

Then there's Europe. In the 19 countries that use the euro currency, growth slowed in the second quarter to an anemic annual rate of 1.1%, or 0.2% from the quarter before. The eurozone, which maintains close trade ties with the U.S. and China, has been side-swiped by the collision between Trump and President Xi Jinping. And Trump has threatened to impose significant tariffs on European auto imports.

Even more than the tariffs, uncertainty over trade disputes is chilling investment and purchasing. Despite cheap borrowing costs from central bank stimulus, investment in new plants is lagging, an ominous sign

that bosses don't foresee a pickup.

In Europe's economic powerhouse, Germany, the economy shrank 0.1% in the second quarter from the quarter before. If output should fall for a second straight quarter, Germany would find itself in a recession.

Some of Germany's troubles originate closer to home. Major automakers have had to sink billions into technology to meet stricter emissions tests. BMW lost money on its car business for the first time in a decade in the first quarter. Daimler posted its first net loss since 2009 in the second quarter.

Brexit is another risk for Europe. Prime Minister Boris Johnson says the U.K. will leave the 28-country European Union and its free-trade zone on Oct. 31, with or without a divorce deal. Not knowing what will happen is a nagging source of uncertainty.

Facing such risks, the European Central Bank has signaled it could launch new monetary stimulus as early as next month. As recently as December, the ECB had been confident enough in the economy to halt a nearly four-year, \$2.6 trillion-euro (\$2.9 trillion) bond purchase program. That optimism has vanished.


The U.S. economy, now

enjoying a record-breaking 10-year expansion, still shows resilience. American consumers, whose spending accounts for 70% of U.S. economic activity, have driven the growth.

Retail sales have risen sharply this year, with people shopping online and spending more at restaurants. Their savings rates are also the highest since 2012, which suggests consumers aren't necessarily stretching themselves thin.

But Trump's tariffs loom over the U.S. economy. The import taxes he plans to impose on China on Sept. 1 and again on Dec. 15 are likely to hit Americans more than the earlier rounds of tariffs.

Already, companies are delaying investments because they don't know where to put new factories, seek suppliers or find customers until they have a better idea where the trade disputes are going. "Uncertainty is high," said Eric Lascelles, chief economist at RBC Global Asset Management. "Businesses everywhere are sitting on their hands." For all the gloom, Lascelles said policymakers aren't without options. Even with short-term interest rates near zero, central banks can aggressively buy bonds to pump money into the financial system — it's what the Fed, ECB and Bank of Japan did to revive growth during and after the financial crisis. □



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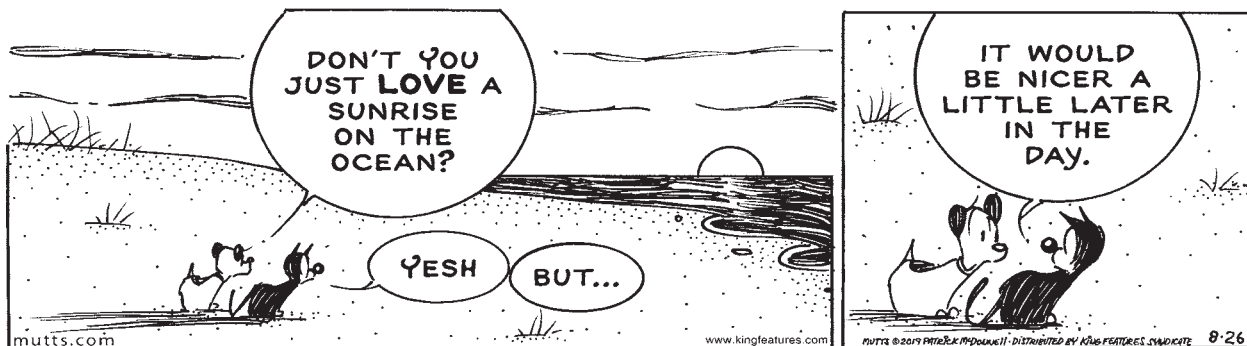
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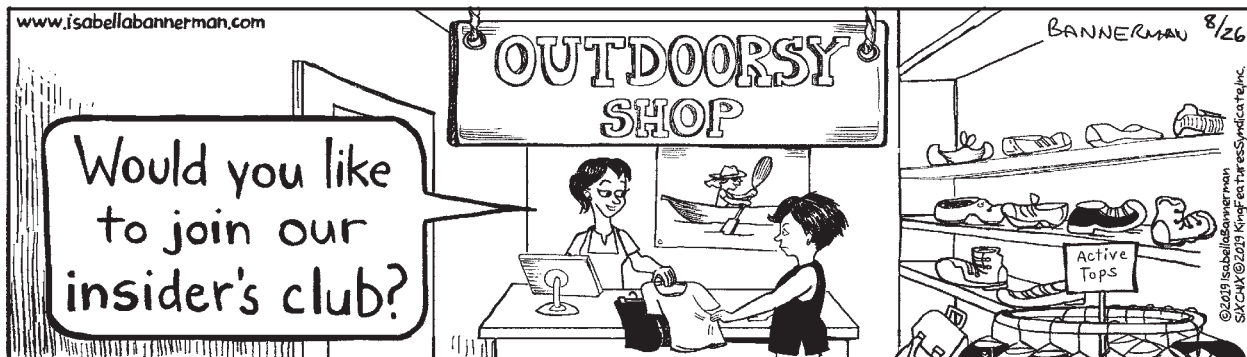
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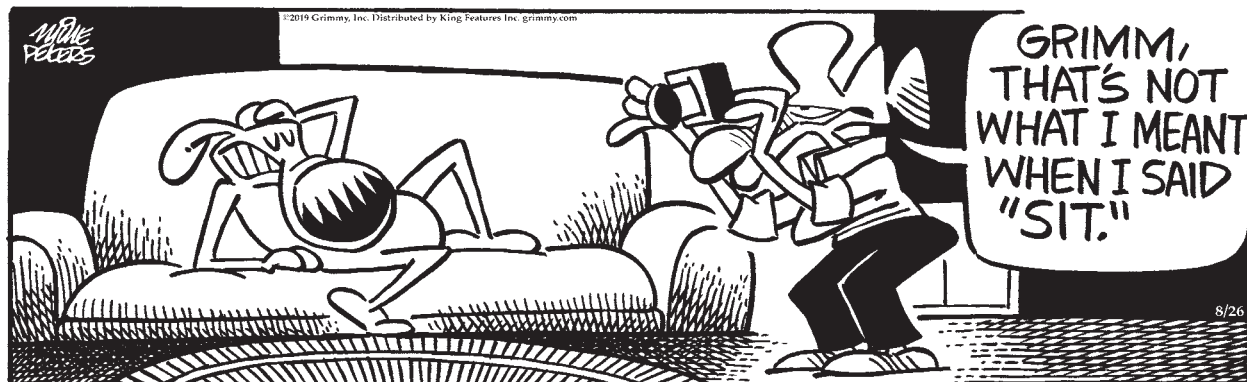
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Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

2		9				1		7
	5			8	9		2	
4				7				9
	4		7		2			
	3	8		5		6	7	
			8		1		3	
9				1				3
	6		4	2			9	
5		3				8		1

Difficulty Level ★

8/26

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

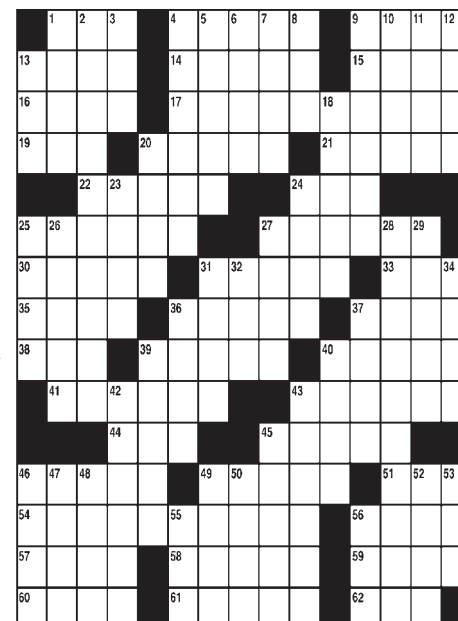
1	5	3	7	8	2	9	4	6
2	7	9	4	5	6	8	3	1
4	6	8	1	3	9	5	2	7
6	4	7	2	9	8	1	5	3
3	2	5	6	7	1	4	8	9
9	8	1	5	4	3	7	6	2
5	9	4	3	6	7	2	1	8
8	3	2	9	1	4	6	7	5
7	1	6	8	2	5	3	9	4

ACROSS

- 1 Fish-and-chips fish, often
- 4 Film for Stallone
- 9 Throw away
- 13 Residence
- 14 Once more
- 15 Anti-mob acronym
- 16 \_\_ up; admits guilt
- 17 Local language
- 19 CBS drama
- 20 Pennies
- 21 "\_\_\_ makes waste"
- 22 Word after decimal or exclamation
- 24 Actor Diesel
- 25 Young hogs
- 27 Trusted adviser
- 30 NASCAR's Richard \_\_
- 31 Rigg or Ross
- 33 By way of
- 35 Chopping tools
- 36 Most terrible
- 37 Fewer
- 38 Bill denomination
- 39 Fellows
- 40 Warm jacket
- 41 Leisurely walk
- 43 Smith of "Charlie's Angels"
- 44 Diving seabird
- 45 Ropers' competition
- 46 Accepted standards
- 49 Enjoys a long bath
- 51 Mistaken
- 54 Cheerfulness
- 56 Short one-act play
- 57 Jailbird's home
- 58 Stomach woe
- 59 Group of cattle
- 60 Kind of jerk
- 61 Lagers
- 62 Linear measures: abbr.

DOWN

- 1 Farm animals
- 2 Almighty
- 3 French article



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/26/19

4	Largest songbirds	37	Mantilla fabric	47	Work animals
5	Insurance policy seller	39	Meek one	48	Reign
6	Word attached to K or Wal	40	Cushions	49	Store event
7	Canisters	42	Walk about: aimlessly	50	___ in a blue moon
8	Stop __ dime	43	Wild cards	52	Forest trees
9	School no-show	45	Marathon participant	53	Floral wire svc.
10	Artist's paints, often	46	Whiplash site	55	Massage
11	"Shoo!"			56	Reserved
12	Hopping mad				
13	Ad __ committee				
18	Most populous nation				
20	Salt Lake __				
23	Steed's supper				
24	Let off steam				
25	Kerfuffle				
26	Witch's spells				
27	Church service				
28	Failed to notice				
29	Perilous				
31	Barbie or Ken				
32	Outrage				
34	Bald __ eagle				
36	Johnny Cash's "I __ the Line"				

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8/26/19



# Environmentalists sue over Endangered Species Act rollbacks

By SAMANTHA MALDONADO

Associated Press

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Seven environmental and animal protection groups teamed up to file the first lawsuit challenging the Trump administration's rollback of the Endangered Species Act.

The environmental law nonprofit Earthjustice filed the lawsuit Wednesday on behalf of the Center for Biological Diversity, Defenders of Wildlife, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, National Parks Conservation Association, WildEarth Guardians and the Humane Society of the United States. The lawsuit comes after the federal government earlier this month announced a series of changes to weaken the Endangered Species Act.

In a filing, the groups argue that the Trump administration violated the National Environmental Policy Act by failing to analyze the effects of the new rules. They also charge that the administration unreasonably changed requirements to comply with part of the Endangered Species Act that would have prevented any changes that could threaten the existence or habitat of any listed species.

"In the midst of an unprecedented extinction crisis, the Trump administration is eviscerating our most effective wildlife protection law," Rebecca Riley, legal director of the nature program at the Natural Resources Defense Council, said in a statement. "These regulatory changes will place vulnerable species in immediate danger — all to line the pockets of industry. We are counting on the courts to step in before it's too late."

Nicholas Goodwin, a spokesman for the U.S. Department of the Interior, criticized the lawsuit. "It is unsurprising that those who repeatedly seek to weaponize the Endangered Species Act — instead of use it as a means to recover imperiled species — would choose to



In this Oct. 20, 2017, file photo, John Miano of Destin, Fla., holds a monarch butterfly on his fingertip as he waits for the newly tagged insect to take flight during the Panhandle Butterfly House's Monarch Madness festival in Navarre, Fla.

Associated Press

sue," Goodwin said. "We will see them in court, and we will be steadfast in our implementation of this important act with the unchanging goal of conserving and recovering species."

Christina Meister, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, declined to comment. Spokespeople for the National Marine Fisheries Service did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Under the enforcement changes, officials for the first time will be able to publicly attach a cost to saving an animal or plant. Blanket protections for creatures newly listed as threatened will be removed. Among several other changes, the action could allow the gov-

ernment to disregard the possible impact of climate change, which conservation groups call a major and growing threat to wildlife. A United Nations report released in May warned that more than 1 million plants and animals globally face extinction, some within decades, because of human influence, climate change and other threats. The Endangered Species Act is credited with helping save the bald eagle, California condor and scores of other animals and plants from extinction since President Richard Nixon signed it into law in 1973. The act currently protects more than 1,600 species in the United States and its territories. □



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# Astronomer: 'Magic' nights make Hawaii best telescope site

By CALEB JONES  
Associated Press

**HONOLULU (AP)** — When starlight from billions of years ago zips across the universe and finally comes into focus on Earth, astronomers want their telescopes to be in the best locations possible to see what's out there.

Despite years of legal battles and months of protests by Native Hawaiian opponents, the international coalition that wants to build the world's largest telescope in Hawaii insists that the islands' highest peak — Mauna Kea — is the best place for their \$1.4 billion instrument.

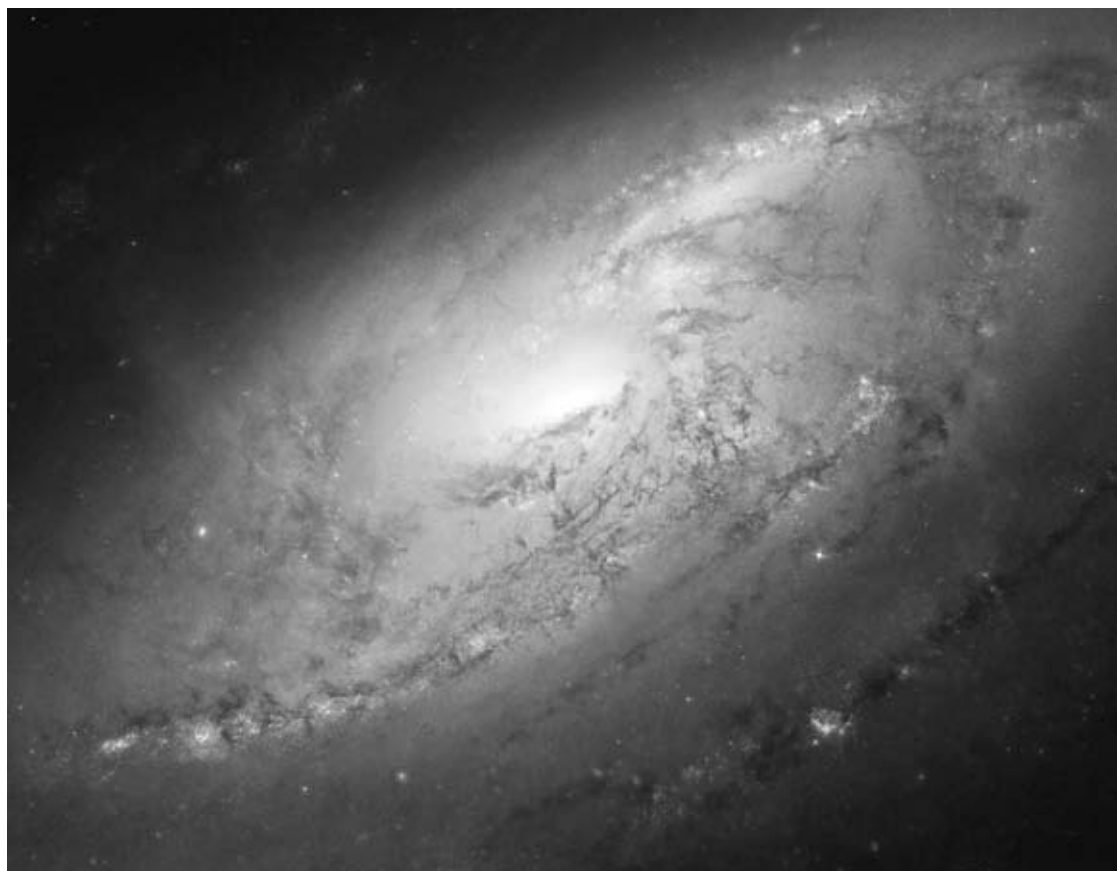
But just barely.

Thirty Meter Telescope officials acknowledge that their backup site atop a peak on the Spanish Canary island of La Palma is a comparable observatory location, and that it wouldn't cost more money or take extra time to build it there.

There's also no significant opposition to putting the telescope on La Palma like there is in Hawaii, where some Native Hawaiians consider the mountain sacred and have blocked trucks from hauling construction equipment to Mauna Kea's summit for more than a month.

But Hawaii has advantages that scientists say make it slightly better: higher altitude, cooler temperatures, and rare star-gazing moments that will allow the cutting-edge telescope to reach its full potential.

"Every once in a while at Mauna Kea, you get one of those magic nights," said University of California, Santa Cruz astronomy and astrophysics professor Michael Bolte, a Thirty Meter Telescope board mem-



This file image made by the NASA/ESA Hubble Space Telescope shows M106 with additional information captured by amateur astronomers.

Associated Press

ber. "When the air is super stable above the site, you get images that you simply couldn't get anywhere else."

Bolte, who has used existing Mauna Kea telescopes, said those "magic" Hawaii nights could hold discoveries that might be missed in La Palma.

"Let's suppose one of your big science cases is to look for life on planets that are orbiting other stars," he said. "The star is so much brighter than the planet you're trying to observe, it's really hard to do."

The advanced optics and huge size of the Thirty Meter Telescope, especially if built at Mauna Kea's higher altitude, could allow scientists to more easily detect potentially life-filled planets, Bolte said.

To see distant planets near bright stars, astronomers use telescopes to capture

infrared light that emanates from the space objects.

But John Mather, an astrophysicist who won the Nobel Prize in Physics in 2006 for his work on the Big Bang theory, says there are other ways to get that data.

Mather, the senior project scientist for NASA's James Webb Space Telescope, planned for launch into space in 2021, said the new instrument will be extremely effective at gathering infrared light. The atmosphere won't get in the way of the telescope's imaging capabilities because it won't be on Earth.

Data from the Webb telescope can be combined with information from other Earth-based telescopes to compensate for the infrared advantage that Mauna Kea has over La Palma, Mather said.

He said Webb will open up "new territory that you'll never be able to tackle from the ground."

Mather is also working on a longer-term solution to the problem of seeing Earth-like planets orbiting distant stars, which he likened to seeing a "firefly next to a spotlight."

It's a large "star shade" that would be launched far into

space and positioned to block bright stars while allowing telescopes on Earth to see the planets orbiting them.

Those advancements could level the playing field between places such as Mauna Kea and La Palma, said astrophysicist Avi Loeb, who chairs Harvard University's astronomy department.

"One thing that you need to keep in mind is that humans can change the system as to compensate for the slightly worse conditions" in Spain, Loeb said. "In the end, it might perform as well or maybe even better." Loeb agreed that Mauna Kea is a slightly better location for infrared observations. But La Palma is "an excellent site, so there would be exceptional science done there," he added.

The Native Hawaiian opponents call themselves "protectors" of Mauna Kea and aren't concerned about their mountain's advantages for astronomers. They just want the telescope group to abandon Hawaii.

That would "be a win for everyone," said protest leader Kealoha Pisciotto shortly after Thirty Meter Telescope officials announced they would move forward with a

building permit application for the La Palma site a few weeks ago.

"There's lots of good science to be done from the Canary Islands," Pisciotto said.

Not all Native Hawaiians are opposed to the telescope. Some tout the educational and economic opportunities it would bring to the Big Island. Others have compared modern astronomers to their Polynesian ancestors who used stars to navigate their wooden outriggers across the Pacific and discover new lands — including Hawaii.

Mauna Kea stands nearly 14,000 feet (4,300 meters) above sea level, more than twice as high as the Spanish site that is already home to the world's largest optical telescope. Like Hawaii's Big Island, the Spain site has good weather, a stable atmosphere and very little light pollution.

Thirty Meter Telescope would be a next generation model that's expected to transform ground-based astronomy — allowing scientists to see deeper into space than previously possible. Its large mirror will produce sharper, more detailed images of space.

"You can get images that are 12 times sharper than the Hubble Space Telescope," Bolte said.

And most of the same science planned for Hawaii would still get done in Spain — it would just take longer. "Depending on the kind of science you want to do, it's going to be a 10% hit to a 50% hit in speed," Bolte said. "You are going to have to observe that much longer at La Palma to get the same quality data."

José Manuel Vilchez, an astronomer with Spain's Higher Council of Scientific Research and a former member of the scientific committee of the Astrophysics Institute of the Canary Islands, said that building the telescope on La Palma would not be a downgrade.

"We are talking about the best of the best. One is a 10, the other is a 9.9," Vilchez said. □



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# Obi-Wan, Lizzie McGuire join new Disney Plus platform

By LYNN ELBER

Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. (AP) —

Ewan McGregor is reprising his "Star Wars" role as Obi-Wan Kenobi in a new series, one of the many splashy projects that Disney is banking on to make its new streaming platform competitive.

The as-yet untitled Disney Plus show drew big cheers when it was announced Friday at the D23 Expo fan event, as did a "Lizzie McGuire" reboot with original star Hilary Duff playing a grown-up version of the title character.

The audience of about 6,000 at a convention center adjacent to Disneyland also voiced enthusiasm for another "Star Wars"-related series, "The Mandalorian," which its producers said is set in an unexplored time for the space saga and features new characters.

Disney Plus had a receptive crowd, with expo attendees lining up to buy discounted subscriptions before the showcase. But it laid out a two-hour banquet of show trailers and stars to further whet fans' appetite, starting with a performance by cast members of the new "High School Musical" series and appearances by McGregor, Duff, Kristen Bell, Anna Kendrick and others. "It's been four years of saying, 'I don't know'" when he was asked about the long-discussed Obi-Wan project, McGregor said. "Now I can say, 'Yes, we're going to do it.'"

Among the movies set for the streaming service launching Nov. 12: the holiday comedy "Noelle," starring Kendrick, Bill Hader and Billy Eichner, and a live-action remake of 1955's animated film "Lady and the Tramp," with Tessa Thompson and Justin Theroux voicing the canine couple. Yvette Nicole Brown, who hosted the Disney Plus showcase, also stars.

Disney is reaching into its library for the streaming service with classic projects and updates on them, like "Lady and the Tramp." But it's also relying on brands that were acquired by

Disney, including Marvel, Pixar, Fox's entertainment businesses, and "Star Wars" home Lucasfilm, making it a formidable newcomer.

"Ms. Marvel," "Moon Knight" and "She-Hulk," derived from Marvel comics, are being developed as live-action series for Disney Plus, Marvel Studios President Kevin Feige announced. Also coming is "What If...?" an animated series that imagines alternate Marvel universe realities, such as Peggy Carter as Captain America.

"Monsters At Work" is a series inspired by the Pixar movie "Monsters, Inc." with a new cast of monsters and starring Ben Feldman and Aisha Tyler in its voice cast. Among the other programs for Disney Plus, which is



Mickey Mouse waves to members of the media at the Disney Legends press line during the 2019 D23 Expo, Friday, Aug. 23, 2019, in Anaheim, Calif.

Associated Press

launching with a \$7 monthly price tag (pricing to vary outside the United States):

— "Diary of a Female President," a comedy series about a Cuban-American

girl's middle-school experience and her path to becoming the U.S. president. Tess Romero plays Elena, with Gina Rodriguez producing and guest-starring as the adult version.

— "The World According to Jeff Goldblum," a National Geographic series in which the actor explores such things as sneakers, ice cream and synchronized swimming.

— "Encore!" from executive producer Bell, which gives former castmates of high school musicals the chance to perform together again and revisit their teenage insecurities.

— "Forky Asks a Question," with Tony Hale reprising his role from "Toy Story 4" in new Pixar animated shorts about the inquisitive toy. □

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# 'Angel Has Fallen' tops box office with \$21.3 million debut

By JAKE COYLE  
NEW YORK (AP) — "Angel Has Fallen" easily topped the box office with a \$21.3 million debut, according to studio estimates Sunday, as the action sequel became the latest mid-budget release to find modest success in the often quiet late summer. The Lionsgate film beat expectations going into the weekend, opening similarly to the previous 2016 install-

ment "London Has Fallen." The film series stars Gerard Butler as a Secret Service agent protecting the U.S. president played by Morgan Freeman. In "Angel Has Fallen," Butler's agent is wrongly accused of trying to assassinate the president. Going back to 2013's "Olympus Has Fallen," the franchise has been a quietly consistent performer, taking in roughly \$200 million



This image released by Lionsgate shows Lance Reddick, left, and Gerard Butler in "Angel Has Fallen," directed by Ric Roman Waugh.

Associated Press

worldwide each time. "Angel Has Fallen," produced for about \$40 million by Millennium Films, is poised for a similar course, opening just shy of the \$21.6 million "London Has Fallen" debut. David Spitz, president of domestic distribution for Lionsgate, pointed to the film's A-minus CinemaScore and 94% audience score on Rotten Tomatoes (far better than the 39% critic score) as good word-of-mouth harbingers for the continued playability of "Angel Has Fallen" through the last weeks of summer. "That's a great sign that the movie is going to be theaters for a long time," Spitz said. "Over-performing this weekend and exit polls suggesting we're going to have a nice long runway is terrific." Late August is known as a sleepy period at the box office, but it's also one of the few parts of the calendar relatively light on big-budget tentpole releases. That's given some room for recent successes such as Universal's comedy hit "Good Boys," which slid to second with \$11.8 million. Last week, it became the first R-rated comedy in more than three years to land at No.1. And the Lionsgate-distributed "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark" has also flourished in August, taking in \$50.5 million in three weeks including \$6 million this weekend. □

## Math whiz & elderly fight city hall in 'The Helpline'



This cover image released by Atria Books shows "The Helpline," by Katherine Collette.

Associated Press  
By LINCÉE RAY  
"The Helpline" (Atria Books),

by Katherine Collette  
Being an expert in mathematics is a useful skill in extremely small circles. Life gets complicated for the math genius when you lose your job and are forced to find traditional work in the real world. In her debut novel, "The Helpline," Katherine Collette follows an eccentric woman with zero people skills who reluctantly finds herself in the arms of a supportive community. Germaine Johnson loves math, Sudoku puzzles and structure. When she loses her job at an insurance company, Germaine is forced to take whatever position she's offered. Not many mathematicians have answered calls at the

Senior Citizens Helpline, but Germaine is determined to make her mark at City Hall. The mayor notices Germaine's drive to function in a manner that is both effective and efficient. The way she handles the people on the other end of the phone line is very black and white. And that's exactly the kind of person the mayor needs for her special project. A parking lot is the cause of a feud between the senior center and the incredibly handsome Don Thomas, who manages the golf club next door. The mayor is on Don's side, therefore, Germaine must find a solution to rid the town of the dilapidated center using logistics and numbers. □

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GERARD BUTLER | MORGAN FREEMAN

ANGEL HAS FALLEN

PH MON-FRI 5:30 | 8:15

VIP SAT-SUN 2:45 | 5:30 | 8:15

PH FRI-SAT 10:05

PBP CXC MON-THU 5:50 | 8:30

FRI 5:50 | 8:30 | 11:10

SAT 3:10 | 5:50 | 8:30 | 11:10

SUN 3:10 | 5:50 | 8:30

PBP VIP MON-FRI 3:55 | 6:35 | 9:15

SAT-SUN 1:15 | 3:55 | 6:35 | 9:15

NEW THIS WEEK!

SAMARA WEAVING | ADAM BRODY

READY OR NOT

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

PH MON-THU 6:15 | 8:30

FRI 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:45

VIP SAT 1:45 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30 | 10:45

SUN 1:45 | 4:00 | 6:15 | 8:30

PBP MON-THU 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35

FRI 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35 | 11:45

SAT 1:00 | 3:05 | 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35 | 11:45

SUN 1:00 | 3:05 | 5:15 | 7:25 | 9:35

JASON SUDEIKIS | JOSH GAD

THE ANGRY BIRDS 2 MOVIE

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG

PH MON-FRI 6:05 | 8:00

FRI 6:05 | 8:00 | 10:25

SAT 3:10 | 5:35 | 8:00 | 10:25

SUN 3:10 | 5:35 | 8:00

PBP MON-SUN 4:00 | 6:20 | 8:40

SAT-SUN 1:40

ISABELA MONER | EVA LONGORIA

DORA AND THE LOST CITY OF GOLD

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG

PH MON-FRI 7:30

SAT-SUN 2:40 | 5:05 | 7:30

PBP MON-THU 4:10 | 6:30 | 8:50

FRI 4:10 | 6:30 | 8:50 | 11:10

SAT 1:50 | 4:10 | 6:30 | 8:50 | 11:10

SUN 1:50 | 4:10 | 6:30 | 8:50

SPANISH MON-FRI 5:30

SAT-SUN 1:10 | 5:30

ALSO SHOWING!

JACOB TREMBLAY | KEITH L. WILLIAMS

GOOD BOYS

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES R

PH MON-FRI 9:25

SAT-SUN 4:50 | 9:25

PBP MON-THU 7:50

FRI 7:50 | 10:10

SAT 3:25 | 7:50 | 10:10

SUN 3:25 | 7:50

DWAYNE JOHNSON | JASON STATHAM

HOBBS & SHAW

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG-13

PH MON-FRI 5:50 | 8:50

SAT-SUN 2:50 | 5:50 | 8:50

PBP MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:25 | 9:20

SAT-SUN 3:30 | 6:25 | 9:20

DONALD GLOVER | BEYONCÉ KNOWLES-CARTER

Disney THE LION KING

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG

PBP MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:25 | 9:00

SAT-SUN 1:15 | 3:50 | 6:25 | 9:00

KEVIN COSTNER | MILO VENTIMIGLIA

THE ART OF RACING IN THE RAIN

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES PG

PH MON-FRI 7:00

SAT-SUN 2:25 | 7:00

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## Rolling Stones get name on little Martian rock that rolled

By ANDREW DALTON

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. (AP)

— There is now a "Rolling Stones Rock" on Mars, and it's giving Mick, Keith and the boys some serious satisfaction.

NASA named a little stone for the legendary rockers after its InSight robotic lander captured it rolling across the surface of Mars last year, and the new moniker was made public at Thursday night's Rolling Stones' concert at the Rose Bowl.

"NASA has given us something we have always dreamed of, our very own rock on Mars. I can't believe it," Mick Jagger told the crowd after grooving through a rendition of "Tumbling Dice." "I want to bring it back and put it on our mantelpiece."

Robert Downey Jr. announced the name, taking the stage just before the band's set at the Southern

California stadium that is just a stone's throw from NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which manages InSight.

"Cross-pollinating science and a legendary rock band is always a good thing," the "Iron Man" actor said backstage.

He told the crowd that JPL scientists had come up with the name "in a fit of fandom and clever association."

"Charlie, Ronnie, Keith and Mick — they were in no way opposed to the notion," Downey said, "but in typical egalitarian fashion, they suggested I assist in procuring 60,000 votes to make it official, so that's my mission."

He led the audience in a shout of "aye" before declaring the deed done.

Jagger later said, "I want to say a special thanks to our favorite action man Robert Downey Jr. That was a very nice intro he gave."

The rock, just a little bigger



From left, Ron Wood, Mick Jagger, Charlie Watts and Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones perform during their concert at the Rose Bowl, Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019, in Pasadena, Calif.

Associated Press

than a golf ball, was moved by InSight's own thrusters as the robotic lander touched down on Mars on Nov. 26. It only moved about 3 feet (0.9 meters), but that's the farthest NASA has seen a rock roll while landing a craft on another planet.

"I've seen a lot of Mars rocks over my career," Matt Golombek, a JPL geologist who has helped NASA land

all its Mars missions since 1997, said in a statement. "This one probably won't be in a lot of scientific papers, but it's definitely one of the coolest."

The Rolling Stones and NASA logos were shown side by side in the run-up to the show as the sun set over the Rose Bowl, leaving many fans perplexed as to what the connection was

before it was announced. The concert had originally been scheduled for spring, before the Stones postponed their No Filter North American tour because Jagger had heart surgery. The 76-year-old showed no signs of poor health or even his age as he danced, pranced and boogied up and down a long catwalk that extended to the middle of the stadium's field. He did poke fun at his advanced years.

"It's great to be back at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena," Jagger said. "At least I think we've been here before." (They have, in 1994.)

He also said, "We walked up and down Hollywood Boulevard looking for the Rolling Stones star but couldn't find it." (The band doesn't have one.)

And he took a dig at President Donald Trump's recent talk of acquiring Greenland when introducing his bandmates. □



# Coffee growers help reforest Mozambique's Mount Gorongosa

By ANDREW MELDRUM

Associated Press

**MOUNT GORONGOSA, Mozambique (AP)** — A

wiry woman, Querida Barequinha intently sorts through the coffee beans laid out on racks to dry in the sun, plucking out any that are cracked or misshapen.

"I like growing coffee because it earns cash that goes right into my pocket," she said, with a darting smile. "I can buy soap, cooking oil, schoolbooks and other household items. It's very useful."

Barequinha has been growing coffee for four years on the upper slopes of Mount Gorongosa, where clouds frequently cover the rainforest at the top. Now that a peace agreement has been signed between Mozambique's government and the Renamo rebels, whose military headquarters are nearby, she is planning to plant more coffee trees.

A mother of seven, Barequinha said she is encouraging her family to join her in coffee production.

"I'd love to see others in my family grow coffee," she said, in chiGorongosi, a dialect of the Sena language. "It offers us a source of hope."

Barequinha is one of 400 Mozambican farmers producing coffee that earns them valued cash incomes while at the same time restores the rapidly eroding rainforest of Mount Gorongosa. With peace on the mountaintop there are plans to dramatically scale up coffee production, as



A woman holds coffee beans at a coffee plantation in Mount Gorongosa, Mozambique Sunday, Aug. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

part of the national park's innovative plan to boost the incomes of people living around the park as well as revitalizing the environment.

Mount Gorongosa rises 1,863 meters (6,112 feet) above Mozambique's central plains and the tropical hardwood forest of its upper rainy regions is being stripped by local farmers who want to grow maize. Coffee is a crop that can stop that deforestation, say park experts. Shade-grown coffee shrubs produce better tasting coffee beans, so the trees are planted among indigenous trees. Areas that had been denuded of trees now boast verdant slopes of coffee trees interspersed with local trees such as albizias and other crops.

"Coffee thrives in this unique rainforest. It produces much better income than maize and it encourages farmers to re-grow the rainforest. It is a win-win development for the farmers and the environment, so this is great for the park," said Matthew Jordan, associate director of the Agricultural Livelihoods Program of Gorongosa National Park. Coffee could produce 10 times more income than maize or other subsistence crops grown by local farmers, said Jordan.

Twenty years ago Gorongosa park was derelict as a result of the country's devastating civil war and much of its wildlife had been poached. The park is now reviving thanks to a partnership between the Mozambican government and the Gorongosa Restoration Project, which is supported by American philanthropist Greg Carr. The organization allocates more than half of its annual budget on supporting the communities that live around the park.

The Gorongosa coffee project is ramping up its productions, spurred on by the peace agreement signed this month (August 1) between Mozambique's government and rebels. In the past four years it has planted 40,000 coffee trees

that this year produced 8 tons of coffee beans. Some 300,000 new trees will be planted this year and annually for the next 10 years, said Jordan.

"With peace we will have a quantum jump in our production," said Jordan, gesturing to a plot of seedlings in bags about to be planted. "This will put Gorongosa coffee on the map. Our farmers will get paid fair prices, premium prices for their shade-grown crop." There are more than 800 Renamo rebels in three armed camps at the top of Mount Gorongosa. Their presence restricted the expansion of coffee and other agriculture. But the promise of earning ready cash from coffee may entice many of them to give up their weapons and start

tending shrubs, say park officials. The processing of the coffee beans could create seasonal employment for thousands of local residents, said Jordan.

Mozambique has not been one of Africa's major coffee producers like Ethiopia and Kenya, but Mount Gorongosa's unique climate makes it very promising. Already, international coffee giant Nespresso has shown interest in promoting the park's coffee production, said Jordan.

The action is already evident on Mount Gorongosa, where families ford rivers carrying as many seedlings as possible, including balancing some on their heads. Hillside fields have rows of scooped out spots where coffee seedlings will soon be planted. "Coffee trees have shallow roots and do well in the topsoil here. Trees have deeper roots and fix nitrogen into the soil, so they do well growing together," said Jordan. Cashews, honey, pineapples, avocados, citrus and litchis are other crops being encouraged that will simultaneously boost the incomes of local farmers and enhance Gorongosa's environment. "Our aim is to promote agro-forestry, high value crops," said Jordan. Short and animated, Vaida Frangene, is a vocal supporter of the park's coffee growing enterprise. "I started as a volunteer in the reforestation program and then I started growing coffee. I earned cash for it last year and there is more to come this year," she said. □



Women process coffee beans at a coffee plantation in Mount Gorongosa, Mozambique, Sunday Aug. 3, 2019.

Associated Press



Women sort coffee beans at a coffee plantation in Mount Gorongosa, Mozambique, Sunday Aug. 3, 2019.

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